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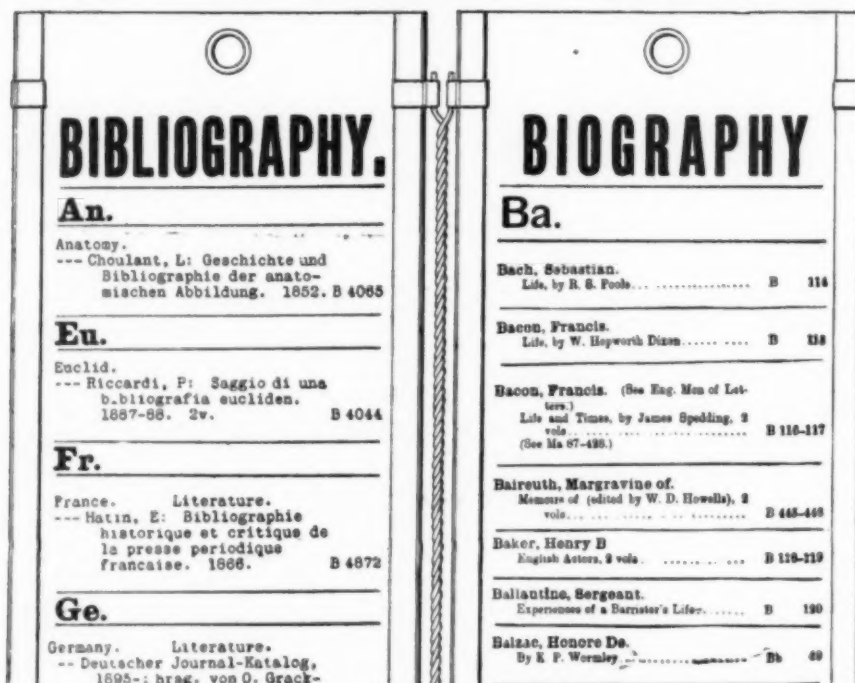
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THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THERE is no more important — as there is no more interesting — part of a librarian's work than that dealing with the relations of the library and the school. It seems not too much to say that this is the most vital branch of a library's administration. For the children are the library's most hopeful material; they are to be the readers of the future, and they are not yet beyond the power of influence nor are they resistant of direction. The library that has no connection with the local schools is neglecting its mission and ignoring its noblest opportunities. It is through this medium that the children may be reached most easily, most directly, and most effectively. Let the library once become the recognized depository of material for "compositions," "observation" items, etc., and it will soon take equal rank as a source of home reading. Let the children find that their needs have prompt attention, their questions considerate and kindly answers, and the librarian becomes a friend whose suggestions are willingly received and frequently followed. When the world of books is made an intimate part of the every-day world of school-time and play-time, the education thus begun will inevitably prepare the way for that later and more potent self-education that comes with the reading of good books.

BUT in this work the aid of the teacher is essential to success, and the teacher is generally the unknown quantity in the problem. Indeed, the most difficult part of the librarian's work is to enlist the sympathy and co-operation of the teachers. It will not do to wait until their co-operation is offered. The first advances must come from the library, and in most cases it requires much more than a "first step" to count. Teachers, as a rule, are not particularly responsive to the claims upon their time and attention that co-operation with the library entails. They are apt to feel that their work is arduous enough as it is, and that the use and circulation of library books among their scholars mean simply additional work and scant results. Those true teachers who recognize their responsibilities and accept them to the full, are far outnumbered by the many who care little and

think less of the higher duties of their calling, and who deem co-operation with the library a tiresome work of supererogation. It is to the latter that the librarian must especially appeal — the former are on the right side from the first. Personal intercourse, short talks at teachers' meetings, the extension of privileges to teachers, and kindred wiles must be resorted to, and generally will be successful. When by these means the teachers' enthusiasm and sympathy are obtained the rubicon is crossed, for in each school-room there is a library lieutenant, knowing the children and their needs as the busy librarian cannot do, and supplementing and extending the work of the library with the best and most lasting results.

THE various phases of this important subject — the co-operation of teachers and librarians, the relations of the library and the schools, and the direction of children's reading — are discussed in this number of the JOURNAL from various standpoints of personal experience. No one special feature is emphasized, unless it be the importance of the work; but the selection of books for school work, methods of reference work among children, means of educating children in the use of the library, and ways in which the child's home reading may be influenced and guided, are considered and set forth. Such a symposium as this cannot fail to be helpful, full of interest and suggestion; above all, encouraging. It shows the high standards that may be attained by all who will, and it demonstrates again — if such demonstration be necessary — how thoroughly the "missionary spirit" should be inherent in the best library work.

UNDER the provision of the new public documents law, making the bureau of public documents a department of the Government Printing Office, the public printer has appointed Mr. Francis A. Crandall to be superintendent of public documents. This action terminates Mr. John G. Ames' long period of service as superintendent of this bureau; whether it will completely sever his connection with the department is uncertain. It is much to be regretted that Mr. Ames

has not been allowed the opportunity afforded by the new law for continuing and developing under new and more favorable facilities the work which he has prosecuted so long and so successfully under disadvantageous circumstances. His retention in office has been strenuously urged by the A. L. A. committee on public documents and by individual members of the association, and his retirement is a serious loss, not only to the bureau of documents but to library interests, which he has always served and aided to the utmost of his power.

WITH the passage of the bill amending the act for the "consolidation of library companies in the city of New York," the legal way is made clear for the consolidation of the Astor and Lenox libraries and the Tilden Trust. The act does not in any way incorporate the great "Public Library of New York," nor does it make such incorporation obligatory. It simply removes any legal obstacles in the way of consolidation, when final action towards that end shall be taken by the trustees. Such action is still to be taken, although it is presaged in the assent of the various trustees to the consolidation plan. So many other details will remain to be decided after the incorporation becomes an accomplished fact that "'twere well 'twere done quickly," and it is to be hoped that within the next few weeks the "New York Public Library—Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations" may have entered upon its corporate existence.

Communications.

THE FIRE AT THE MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

MAY I send through the JOURNAL a general message of most sincere thanks for the kind letters which our reported loss by fire has called out? I should like to answer each one individually but am unable to do so.

It was a very narrow escape indeed for the library, but by the faithful, heroic work of the firemen, with the inspiration and direction of the president of our board of trustees, the fire was checked in the corner portion of our building and we were spared loss by either fire or water. It is one more object-lesson of the necessity for quick work with our new building. The control of its erection has been vested, by an act of the present legislature, in the library and museum trustees. The architect promises that plans and specifications shall be ready for the advertising for bids for construction by May first, and it seems now as if the building should be well out of the ground before snow flies.

THERESA WEST.

A WORKING EXAMPLE.

THE following letter, addressed to a member of the A. L. A., who has given her energies largely to the guidance and development of children's reading, is sent to the JOURNAL by its recipient as an illustration of what may be done in that direction, even with limited resources, if enthusiasm and perseverance go to the task:

MY DEAR MISS —: I have been working all winter under the inspiration of the ideas and ideals gained last September at the Conference, and I write you to-day to thank you for the large share you had in helping me. Under another cover, I send you a copy of a "reading list for the young people" that I prepared early in the winter. In January, armed with these lists, I visited the schools, coming in contact with 2000 children and young people. Evidently the children heard and heeded, for we have been busy enough caring for them ever since, not only at the delivery desk but in the reference room as well. They are learning to be students.

From a librarian's point of view, my lists are very imperfect, and I am almost ashamed to send them to other libraries. The type was set at odd moments by the city editor of our daily paper; "A personal favor" he said, "in exchange for the articles you have written for me" — library notes, he meant. So all the lists cost was the price of paper and presswork. The omission of call numbers is due to the fact that they were too much for the city editor, and because the work was a gift I omitted them; but we know our shelves so well that we are not troubled by their omission. The capital letters form the most glaring fault, for, spite of copy and many warnings, the newspaper idea of headlines gained and carried the day.

But the lists are serving their purpose, and that is best of all. We are having an exceedingly busy and prosperous winter. We count our increase in every department by one or two thousand every month over last year. And in number of books we have attained this winter accessions to 10,000, and we are now aiming for 20,000.

THE COLLATION OF BOOKS.

MR. FLETCHER's remarks in regard to collating bring to mind a personal experience. In an invoice of several hundred volumes from London, where most of the books had been rebound to order, it was afterwards discovered that the binders had inserted a signature of Mrs. Somerville's "Physical geography" in the middle of a volume of Crabbe's Poems. Upon this, the first-named work was examined, and found to contain the missing pages of poetry, ready to be "said or sung" by the surprised student. So the two volumes were sent back to London, where the binders, who had so "pleasantly diversified" their contents, had the trouble of reconstructing them. More recently, what was supposed to be a set of "The Kalevala," in two volumes, was after a time found to consist of two copies of vol. 1, without any vol. 2, although the covers were all right.

M. O. N.

HOW TEACHERS SHOULD CO-OPERATE WITH LIBRARIANS.*

BY GEORGE WATSON COLE, *Librarian Jersey City Free Public Library.*

IN the "Vision of Mirza," by Addison, there is an allegorical description of the Bridge of Human Life. This bridge consists of about 100 arches, each arch representing a year of human existence. At its entrance is seen a multitude of people, rushing forward to cross it. In each arch are numerous pitfalls, through which many are precipitated into the River of Time, which flows below, and are forever lost to view. As this crowd passes along, it is constantly diminishing in number. After the middle of the bridge is passed, the number is so small that but here and there is any one to be seen. Before the further end is reached, all who started have disappeared, each having fallen through some one of its numerous arches.

A similar picture would not inaptly represent those who start out to receive the education which is provided by our schools, academies, and colleges. Many of those who enter the primary and grammar schools drop out before reaching the high school, and but a small part of these pass on to the college and other higher institutions of learning. Statistics show, unless I am greatly mistaken, that a large percentage of children leave school before they are 12 years of age. This being the case, it becomes a vital question with our teachers how to train this class of pupils so that the limited time they spend in school shall be most profitably employed. At best, the time is too short in which to do much. What *shall* be done? Upon what basis must we plan this important work?

The duty is a responsible one, which does not cease when the teachers have imparted to the pupil all the information contained in the prescribed text-books. After all has been said and done, they can only train the pupil to become self-educating, and implant in his mind a desire and resolution to go on, after he shall have left their hands, and continue to develop himself in those directions in which nature has specially fitted him to excel.

How shall this be done? As librarians, we believe it to be the first duty of the teacher to encourage the young to acquire the *reading habit*. Do not mistake the term reading habit for reading as usually taught in the schools. It is something more. It is an overmastering desire on the part of the young, fed by a lively curiosity

and interest, to gain information, which finds expression in reading voraciously everything that tends to satisfy this craving. When once the reading habit takes possession of a boy he is in a fair way, provided his tastes are properly directed, to become self-educating. Thus it is of more importance for teachers to impart this to scholars than to teach them most perfectly every study in the curriculum of the school.

Every child is endowed by nature with an insatiable curiosity, which should be encouraged and directed for his good. However dull he may seem, there is some subject in which he is much interested, and it is the teacher's duty to study each case until this is discovered. In this connection, Mr. George E. Hardy, in a paper on "Literature for children," says:

"The great problem of the schools to-day is not to teach our pupils *how* to read, but *what* to read. The true function of the reading-lesson is to stimulate and control the child's imagination, to fill his mind with the highest thoughts of the best men, and to create for him an ethical ideal which shall dominate his entire being, and be at the very centre of his consciousness; and it is our bounden duty as teachers to supply such inspirations to our pupils at every stage of their intellectual life by presenting them the best of our literature that they can appreciate and understand."

"If we fail to do this, and content ourselves with giving the child the mere mechanical ability to read, we are leaving him in the possession of a power that is equally potent for evil as it is for good. For nowadays a child who can read will read; and if we do not lead and direct his taste, the enemy, who is ever lying in wait for poor, faltering humanity, will give the child abundant opportunity to taste of the knowledge of evil; and this evil, whose knowledge is death to the soul of every pure boy or girl, is crowding us at every turn and corner of life."

"In what way can we save our little ones from contamination? My answer is, by making it impossible, from the very beginning, for them to like such literature, and by filling their minds, from the earliest years, with great thoughts, so that by constantly thinking of them, they 'will become like greatest men.'"

"But you ask, Where shall such important work be commenced? Every intelligent teacher

* Paper read before the New York Library Club, at the Teachers' College, New York, Nov. 8, 1894.

agrees nowadays that English literature should be substituted for the modern graded reader in the upper grades. Not every teacher, however, is prepared to agree with me, I venture to say, when I state that a child should commence the reading of real literature when he has acquired the mechanical power of reading; in other words, when he has mastered the 'primer.'

It is just at this point that the library, which is, after all, the people's great university, comes to the aid of the school. It is a great storehouse from which may be drawn that mass of supplementary reading which in the near future is, we believe, to play a very important part in the education of the young. The old-time method of memorizing text-books has had its day. Many a boy and girl has had interest changed to apathy, if not disgust, by this senseless, yes, pernicious method. The pupil who was deemed dull in the routine studies of the school was bright enough when reading books which appealed to his curiosity. This has been shown time and time again in the case of many students, even collegians, who, while never manifesting especial scholarship in their prescribed studies, have yet become famous in after life in branches which they had little or no opportunity to develop during their school life.

The teacher of to-day instead of attempting to make all his pupils conform to a fixed standard, which too often is equivalent to forcing square pegs into round holes, and *vice versa*, interests himself in the individuality of his pupils by studying their tastes; and by kindly advice and watchful supervision encourages them to develop themselves in the various directions which nature seems to have laid out for them.

How is the teacher going to co-operate with the librarian in carrying on this broader method of education? To begin with, I would suggest that the teacher encourage his pupils to pursue a course of reading which shall supplement the studies pursued in the school. To make my meaning clearer, let us suppose a class is studying the geography of Spain. Call on the librarian, tell him what you are teaching, and ask him what books he has in the library on the geography or description of that country and what books of travels in Spain he can supply. He may possibly have 15 or 20. If the library issues teachers' cards upon which a number of books may be drawn at a time, get the librarian to issue you such a card and draw all the books the rules permit, and carry them to your school-

room. These books may be illustrated; if so, the pictures will interest your scholars and give them much to think of and talk about. Read extracts to the class upon points or places mentioned in the lesson. The books can be given out to be read by the pupils; if so, question them on what they have read to see if they have read intelligently.

Just here it may be well to name several books, a thorough knowledge of which will aid the teacher materially in co-operating intelligently with the librarian. And first there is Mr. Geo. E. Hardy's "Five hundred books for the young," a graded and annotated list, published by Scribner's in 1892. This is one of the latest lists, if not the latest one published, and consists of books in print at the time it was issued. It is carefully graded and will prove of great value in selecting books well within the intelligence of the pupils.

Sargent's "Reading for the young," a classified and annotated catalog, published by the Library Bureau in 1890, is similar in scope to Hardy's book, but has a larger number and a more extended variety of books from which to select.

The teacher in geography will find in Charles F. King's "Methods and aids in geography" (Lee & Shepard, 1888) frequent references to books on the subject, especially in chapter 19: "Sources of information and illustration," and chapter 20: "List of a thousand geographical books." While the teacher in American history will find in Gordy and Twitchell's "Pathfinder of American history" and Winsor's "Reader's handbook of the American Revolution" valuable suggestions as to supplementary reading.

Lists have also been printed in several of the reports of different state boards of education. The teacher should be cautioned, however, not to place too much reliance upon any one list, however excellent or well selected. These lists soon get out of date. New books are constantly appearing, and what a wealth of illustration, beauty of letter-press and binders' designs are given to the young readers of the present day! How many talented writers are constantly producing books for the young of a literary excellence that was quite unknown a generation or two since!

I ought not to omit to state that graded lists have been prepared by teachers in several places, as, for instance, in Poughkeepsie, by Mr. Sickley, Catalogs of reading for the young are issued by many libraries and, where no separate list is

issued, nearly every library distinguishes in some conventional way such books as are suitable for its younger readers.

Special effort to guide the young in their reading is made in some libraries, among which may be named those of Cleveland and Milwaukee. Mr. Brett, of Cleveland, has prepared and printed a paper relating to this subject, and Miss Lutie E. Stearns, superintendent of the circulating department of the Milwaukee Public Library, had a very excellent paper on the work she is doing in that city, which is printed in the Proceedings of the Lake Placid Conference of the American Library Association.

In Jersey City we have taken great pains to get all the teachers in our public schools interested in the Free Public Library and have them induce their pupils to take out borrowers' cards. Many of the scholars have done so. From the nature of the case it is impossible to keep statistics as to their number. The fact that of our entire circulation during the year 1892-93 a little over 24% was juvenile fiction shows for itself how largely the library is used by the young.

For the past year or two we have sent to our schools copies of the classics for children published by Ginn & Co., Houghton, Mifflin & Co., and others. We have purchased from three to four dozen each of the following books, viz.:

- Æsop. "Child's version of fables." Ginn & Co. 48 copies.
- Andersen. "Fairy tales," v. 1. Ginn & Co. 48 copies.
- Andersen. "Fairy tales," v. 2. Ginn & Co. 48 copies.
- Andrews. "Seven little sisters who live on a round ball." Ginn & Co. 48 copies.
- Andrews. "Seven little sisters who prove their sisterhood." Ginn & Co. 48 copies.
- Burroughs. "Birds and bees." H., M. & Co. 42 copies.
- Hale's "Arabian nights." Ginn & Co. 36 copies.
- De Foe. "Robinson Crusoe." Ginn & Co. 48 copies.
- Francillon. "Gods and heroes." Ginn & Co. 36 copies.
- Grimm. "Fairy tales." Educ. Pub. Co. 42 copies.
- Goldsmith. "Vicar of Wakefield." Ginn & Co. 36 copies.
- Hawthorne. "True stories." H., M. & Co. 42 copies.
- Hawthorne. "Wonder book." H., M. & Co. 42 copies.
- Irving. "Sketch book." Ginn & Co. 36 copies.
- Johannot. "Ten great events in history." Amer. B'k Co. 36 copies.
- Johannot. "Stories of our country." Amer. B'k Co. 42 copies.

- Lamb. "Tales from Shakespeare." Ginn & Co. 36 copies.
- Scudder. "Fables and folk stories." H., M. & Co. 48 copies.
- Sewell. "Black Beauty." 48 copies.
- Wyss and Montolieu. "Swiss family Robinson." Ginn & Co. 48 copies.

To these we have just added 50 copies each of Numbers 2, 3, 4, and 5 of "Selections from the *Youth's Companion* for supplementary reading," published by Perry, Mason & Co., of Boston. They are entitled respectively "Glimpses of Europe," "The American tropics," "Sketches of the Orient," and "Old ocean."

These sets are sent to the schools, being charged to the teachers, who are permitted to renew them once so that they are kept in one school for four weeks. The sets are not broken up, but are sent entire to the school entitled to receive them by our schedule; that is, the whole 48 copies of "Black Beauty" go to one school. These books may be used for class reading, distributed for home reading, or given out for reading in school hours to those who have performed their school studies, as the teacher may deem most expedient. The teachers thus distribute them to their pupils, but we have not asked them to keep any record of the number of times they are circulated while in their possession.

This plan has been very successful in its results and is heartily commended by the teachers. Many of the pupils, and not a few of their parents, have by this means come to get their first taste of real literature, which might not have been the case had they been turned loose in the library. I think much can be done in this way towards creating and fostering the reading habit and I look for still greater results in the future.

Teachers will uniformly find librarians ready to aid them in every way in their power. If the library is provided with a suitable room for the purpose, teachers should go there with their classes and look over and talk about books which pertain to their school studies. The librarian will be only too glad of the opportunity to lay out as many books as they wish to use for this purpose. Such occasions should be improved by explaining to the scholars the scope and use of dictionaries, encyclopædias, indexes, and other works of reference.

Another way of utilizing the library is to give out subjects to be looked up by the pupils, sending them to the library to get the desired information.

In Cleveland the library sends to schools 50

or 100 volumes which are retained until the end of the term as a *school-room library*.

The plans that have been mentioned are suggestive to the teacher of ways in which he may co-operate with the librarian in this work. The ingenuity of the teacher should be exercised to make use of the best possible means of interesting his pupils in good reading, thus making of them inveterate and at the same time discriminating readers.

In closing, I may be excused if I make one more short extract from Mr. Hardy's paper on "Literature for children." He says:

"Reading from the great masterpieces, under the careful direction of his teacher, the child

will often form for himself unconsciously a correct standard of the true and the good; and acting under its influence, he will reject the false and impure. In the course of time he will become possessed of a conscious ideal of life which, while not rising to the highest ideal, will yet serve him as an ethical touchstone to which he can safely refer many of the problems of life. In the possession of even such a modest standard he will refuse to accept phrases as principles, turgid sentiment as virtue, and jingling words as measures of right living. If we can thus advance our pupils upward in the path of virtue, we shall have attained the highest results that teachers in our schools can hope to attain."

WHAT CAN BE DONE TO HELP A BOY TO LIKE GOOD BOOKS AFTER HE HAS FALLEN INTO THE "DIME NOVEL HABIT"?

BY ELLEN M. COE, *Librarian New York Free Circulating Library.*

MUCH may be done which will in many, perhaps *most*, cases be followed by appreciably good results. It may be after many days; indeed, the sower of the good seed must not expect to see the dry stony ground bring forth good and pleasant fruits, except after much well-directed effort — possibly after watering with tears. But truly the case of the dime-novel-reading boy is not nearly so hopeless as that of the yellow-novel-reading girl or young woman.

What shall be done, however, requires in the librarian or director of the reading much *knowledge* and more *wisdom*.

It is first most important to know your *boy*, to get from the slight acquaintance which an occasional visit to the library may give some clear understanding of his moral and intellectual character and abilities, to see the good possibilities under an often unprepossessing or sometimes even repulsive exterior, to discover inclinations, however slight, towards right and good things, so that one's suggestions or hints may jump in the direction of those inclinations and tendencies; above all, to do whatever one does in so tactful a way as not to scare away the shy bird, for boys are very keen to discover and resent officious missionary effort to reform. All this requires some extraordinary qualities and qualifications in the librarian — mainly the same which are to be found in the successful school-teacher. (By the way, an interesting and eminently satisfactory proof of the position accorded by the boy to the librarian is that he almost always addresses her as "Teacher.")

In a large city library intimate acquaintance

with many boys is difficult if not impossible; still, I am constantly receiving astonishing proof that much is accomplished in the way of establishing confidential and friendly relations between readers and librarians as I go about among my six libraries — the librarians evidently knowing the characters as well as the names and faces of the readers, and the readers having their own particular friend among the library force, from whom *alone* they are willing to accept service in the way of book-selection or assistance in selection.

Doubtless this is first to be done in all cases: to establish confidential relations, *then* to see that the confidence is not abused, to be *sure* in knowledge of the books recommended. Also of first importance is this: the change must not be made sudden or abrupt. Nothing will more quickly destroy all hope of beautiful flowering of your lily or hyacinth than to bring it *at once* from the dark cool room or cellar in which the bulb has put forth its pale blossom-shoot into the bright, heated, sunny parlor window. No, you must graduate wisely the transfer to higher temperature and sunshine — a little at a time; there is no wiser proverb than "one step at a time."

If the boy has delighted in red-handed tales of Indian border wars, coax him into the realm of history by means of Custer's books. I have never seen the boy who would refuse these. And there are quite a number of similar books sufficiently sanguinary to conceal their strictly historical character which will keep him in reading until his taste is formed for the historical without the

ultra-sanguinary coloring. If detective stories have been his only intellectual food, give him some of the historical criminal biographies and remarkable escapes. There are one or two which cannot be condemned, and they are so much better than what he has been reading that they are a distinct advance; and they certainly do "exhale a moral" which he (with his intimate knowledge of crime and its penalties, if he is a city boy) will not fail to perceive.

If brigands and pirates (in brilliant paper covers) have been his chosen companions, you can start him off at once on the "Adventure series," where fact and fancy are so deftly combined as to defy the cataloger to determine whether they shall be classified with history, biography, or fiction; or Abbott's "Captain Kidd" and kindred books are so faintly historic in their facts and so intensely interesting in the manner of their telling that your boy is off and away into wide fair fields of history before he knows that he is emancipated.

Believe all things, hope all things, endure all things — your reward will seldom fail. Though you may see little of the fruit of your labors, still plant the seed, cultivate the soil in hope of harvest.

Too much cannot be said in favor of the bulletins of selected books posted on the walls far enough away from the librarian's desk so that the shy or bad boys will not fear to read them, and for the "good books" shelf where the most attractive titles and bindings must be displayed, and where the doubtful or ignorant or lazy may find the book they will like to read without trouble.

Also, never to be forgotten it is, that if the boy is once or twice deceived or disappointed in the book he gets from the library he will almost inevitably return to wallowing in the mire of the book-stands where "5-cent books" or "6 for a quarter" are displayed. From this sad relapse the librarian must guard the boy by seeing that he is pleased with the *first books* taken from the library. Whenever possible, see that the books are well and fully illustrated. Nothing interests and enchains the attention and instructs the undisciplined mind more than pictures. Writers and publishers are becoming more and more aware of the attractiveness of the well pictured books and the art of reproducing pictures is now so perfect and inexpensive that the librarian of the future will have little trouble to select books which will attract his boy readers.

HOW MAY WE MAKE THE GUIDING OF PUPILS' READING A PART OF THE TEACHER'S WORK?*

By MARY E. MERINGTON.

THE true teacher is one who is imbued with the idea that all knowledge is not summed up in the petty text-books in his hand, one who carries in his heart and conveys to his pupil the stirring thought that the universe is a great book lying open for him who runs to read and that the true student is he who finds tongues in trees, books in the running brooks, sermons in stones, and good in everything. With this sublime conception dominating his work, he gives the rich fruit of his experience to the neophytes under his care, guides the ambitious, spurs on the laggard, quickens the dormant germ of curiosity, throws light on dark places, and leads the youth to find that the crux in his book of learning is mortality alone. There are students who know a text-book from cover to cover verbatim, yet whose dull ears have never caught the meaning which underlies the even flow of words. He who has made a pupil paraphrase a

page written in his native tongue has done more than the one whose disciple reels off a chapter of Greek. Question the pupil on the words he has memorized and he will answer in words; bid him question you, and unless his intelligence has been awakened, his queries will show that the underlying sense has never penetrated his soul.

There is reading and reading. The object is not to get over so many pages of print, but to come so close to Truth that the pulse of her heart throbs under our hand.

Then arises the question, "How shall a teacher guide his pupils to find the truth?"

It is obvious that those advantages which lie at the hand of one are but too frequently denied to another, and that circumstances may limit the scope of the most energetic person's influence. But to the earnest soul the cheapest spelling-book is a library of poetry and song. R-a-t served Robert Browning as a text; C-a-t conjures up visions of Cambyzes marching as to war; L-l-o-n takes us into the forest with Una or

* Presented at joint meeting of N. Y. Library Association and N. Y. Library Club, N. Y., Jan. 10-12, 1895.

with Androcles, and the H-o-r-s-e carries us over conquered worlds with Bucephalus and into the very clouds with Pegasus.

Rote teachers who put a volume of geographical facts into a young brain turn out the well-drilled machines which abound to-day; but what is the dry recital of a column of statistics in comparison with the joyous expansiveness, the power, the growth felt and exulted in by the child who learns that there is a thought behind such a name as Bosphorus?—no accidental collocation of vowels and consonants, but a name inspired by history, history beautified by tradition, history treating of those far-away ancestors of theirs who pushed their westward way ever forward and forward until they crossed a wider waste of water than was ever dreamed of in their wildest romances.

No time is too soon, no age is too young for a pupil's mind to be lifted to the idea that what he gets from the schools is comparable only to the reading of an index—the subject-matter lies outside.

This is the first step in the guidance of a pupil's reading. Now as to how to accomplish the rest. Let us for a moment consider the instruments in our hands.

Those who have had practical experience in teaching may have noticed a curious psychological fact, to wit, that well into the college grades, those pupils who are called upon to compose, impromptu, a sentence containing a given word, with but few exceptions, embody a cruel thought in this sentence, and this, in my experience, is especially true of girls.

Here is an opening for a wedge. Let the teacher reward those who weave their word into a brief phrase treating of some current topic and eulogize the allusion to some historical or traditional event. Before the week is out "the man" who "kicked the horse" will have given way to the proverbial axe and cherry tree, and in a month, if she be wise, she will be rubbing up some of her own store of "useful and entertaining knowledge" in order to keep pace with her classes.

After a harrowing experience with hangmen and criminals, followed by the Father of his Country *ad infinitum*, I once started a class on the subject of Napoleon, and, like David Copperfield who had Dora for tea and Dora for dinner, Napoleon dominated every hour of the day; so I took Miss Yonge's "History of France" and read it to the boys, and when that was done ventured on "The tale of two cities." The re-

sult was greater, broader, more enduring than I had ventured to hope. We finished it one fine Friday afternoon when they took the reading in lieu of an hour's holiday, and when the time for dismissal came, sat and demanded the rest; and when it was all over they sidled out with a grunt or a nod, too much choked with emotion to say "good-afternoon." But for the rest of the term sentences and grammar exercises and compositions abounded with fresh thought, and home libraries were ransacked for treasure trove.

Books are not at the disposal of every student, but the newspaper is within the limit of a poor man's income, and it is one of the best instruments at a teacher's command, although rarely recognized in that capacity. The average class may be divided into two sections, those pupils who don't read the papers and those who read them amiss; the second division is as hopelessly ignorant as the first.

Why should not an intelligent class be able to write as well on Satolli's mission as on St. Patrick's? Question them, and not a moiety know of his existence. Are there two pupils who could give a summary of the Samoan question or tell why Russia wants a railroad built to Vladivostok? Yet there it stares them in the face side by side with the stories and the crimes and the scandal they do know.

The newspapers chronicle current history, and should be used in that light, and in every class will be found at least one child whose parents will help the teacher by cutting out desirable articles for his son to take to school to be read aloud. The boys who read for themselves will pick out the best to bring. Take the scraps, stick them in an old blank-book, roughly as you please, and before you realize it you have a complete account of the question of the day, while all the class is fighting China against Japan and the Korean Question is settled in a lunch-time.

Much useful work can also be accomplished by the supervision of a child's Sunday-school reading. Unfortunately most church libraries are filled with literary pop-corn and the selection is too limited to admit of a lay teacher's receiving much help from that quarter; but yet it is possible to find good in Nazareth. Also it is well to keep the catalog of the nearest public library and to encourage children to consult their teacher as to the best books to draw out either for amusement or for reference. And it is a very good plan instead of assigning a topic and letting the class read it up and bring in an epitome of the subject, to give out the topic and

require them to give in a list of such books, essays, monographs, etc., as are to be found treating of the matter in hand; it engenders a wholesome spirit of rivalry which leads to greater results.

Last, but not least, having awakened a love for the matter of a book, the manner of it should

come under consideration. Teach the child to look for publishers' names and editions and to see that a well-printed ten-cent paper book coming from a reputable house is far and away above the *olla podrida* that unscrupulous pirates put into half-calf and set out on bargain counters.

REFERENCE WORK AMONG SCHOOL CHILDREN.

By MISS A. L. SARGENT, *Librarian Middlesex Mechanics' Assoc. Library, Lowell, Mass.*

LET us suppose that the momentous problem is solved of persuading children to use the library for more serious purpose than to find a book "as good as 'Mark the match boy,'" and that we are trying to convince children that the library is infallible, and can furnish information on whatever they wish to know about — whether it is some boy who comes on the busiest morning of the week, to find out how to make a puppet show in time to give an afternoon exhibition, or some high-school girl who rushes over in the 20 minutes' recess to write an exhaustive treatise on women's colleges.

It is unnecessary to say that the fewer books the library can supply the more must those few be forced to yield. A large library, with unlimited volumes, meets few of the difficulties which beset smaller and poorer institutions.

If the librarian can name at once "a poem about Henry of Navarre," or tell who wrote "by the rude bridge that arched the flood," and on what monument it is engraved, can furnish material for debate on "the Chinese question," "which city should have the new normal school," "who was Mother Goose," or on any possible or impossible subject, she gains at once the confidence of the severest of critics, and is sure of their future patronage.

The subjects on which children seek information are as varied as those brought by older people and the material is equally elusive. Perhaps the hardest questions to answer are about the allusions which are found in literature studies, and which frequently the teacher who has given the question cannot answer. I find it helpful whenever I come across material of this nature to make a reference to it in the catalog, and, in fact, to analyze carefully all juvenile books, not fiction, whose titles give no hint of the contents. A great many books otherwise valueless become thus most useful, especially if one is pressed for time.

Mr. Jones, in his "Special reading lists," gives many such references to juvenile literature.

Books like Ingersoll's "Country cousins," which contains an article on shell money, and also an account of Professor Agassiz's laboratory at Newport; Mary Bamford's "Talks by queer folks," giving many of the superstitions prevalent about animals; the set of books by Uncle Lawrence, "Young folks' ideas," "Queries," and "Whys and wherefores," recently republished under the title "Science in story," and others of this sort, if carefully indexed, answer many of the questions brought every day by children, and amply repay for the trouble. For even if juvenile books are classified on the shelves, much time is wasted in going through many indexes.

A wide-awake teacher often gives his pupils the events of the day to study, and if they cannot grasp the situation from the daily papers, juvenile periodicals furnish the best material. For this a classified index is indispensable; it makes available accounts of the workings of government, the weather bureau, mint, and other intangible topics. Until the recent publication of Capt. King's "Cadet days," I knew of no other place to find any description of West Point routine outside of Boynton's or Cullum's histories. One glimpse of either would convince any boy he would rather try some other subject.

A short article often suffices to give the main facts. My experience, both as teacher and librarian, persuades me that the average child is eminently statistical. "A horse is an animal with four legs — one at each corner," is fairly representative of the kind of information he seeks. When he becomes diffuse, we may feel sure he has had help. Sissy Jukes are of course to be found, who cannot grapple with facts.

Working on this principle, I have made liberal use of a book issued by the U. S. Government — "The growth of industrial art." It gives, in pictures, with only a line or two of description, the progress of different industries — such as the locomotive, from the clumsy engine of 1802 to the elaborate machinery of the present

day; the evolution of lighting, from the pine-knot and tallow-dip to the electric light; methods of signalling, from the Indian fire-signal to the telegraph; time-keeping, etc. A child will get more ideas from one page of pictures than from a dozen or more pages of description and hard words.

If lack of space compels one to deny the privilege of going to the shelves, it seems to me more essential for children to have ready access to reference-books, and especially to be taught how to use them, than for grown-up people. The youngest soon learn to use "Historical notebooks," Champlin's Cyclopedias, Hopkins' "Experimental science," "Boys' and Girls' handy books," and others of miscellaneous contents. If they have a mechanical bent they will help themselves from *Amateur Work* or "Electrical toy-making;" if musical, from Mrs. Lillie's "Story of music" or Dole's "Famous composers;" if they have ethical subjects to write about, they find what they need in Edith Wiggin's "Lessons in manners," Everett's "Ethics for young people," or Miss Ryder's books, which give excellent advice in spite of their objectionable titles. They can find help in their nature studies in Gibson's "Sharp-eyes," Lovell's "Nature's wonder workers," Mrs. Dana's "How to know the wild flowers," or turn to Mrs. Bolton's or Lydia Farmer's books to learn about famous

people, if they are encouraged to do so. These, of course, are only a few of the books which can be used in this way. As the different holidays come round there are frequent applications for the customs of those days, or for appropriate selections for school or festival. Miss Matthews and Miss Ruhl have helped us out in their "Memorial day selections," and McCaskey's "Christmas in song, sketch, and story," and the "Yule-tide collection" give great variety. If the juvenile periodicals do not furnish the customs, they can, of course, be found in Brand's "Popular antiquities," or Chambers's "Books of days." It is necessary sometimes to use the books for older people, since there is a point where childhood and grown-up-hood meet. I was recently obliged to give quite a small child Knight's "Mechanical dictionary," to find out when and where weather-vanes were first used, and to give a grammar-school girl Mrs. Farmer's "What America owes to women," for material for a graduating essay.

A few excellent suggestions for general reference work are given in Miss Plummer's "Hints to small libraries;" but in spite of all the aids at command there come times when our only resource is to follow the adage, "look till you find it and your labor won't be lost," and to accept the advice of Cap'n Cuttle, "When found, make a note on't."

LIBRARY EXAMINATIONS IN SCHOOLS.

BY CHARLES KNOWLES BOLTON, *Librarian Brookline (Mass.) Public Library.*

IF our libraries are to depend upon the educated people in the community for encouragement and support, we must impress the children while they are in school with the value of books. And until they know how to use them they will remain but half-hearted supporters. I have found during the last year that few people know their alphabet, and fewer the characteristics of works of reference which nominally treat of the same subjects.

A child asks the name of the printer of the first edition of Goldsmith's "Vicar of Wakefield." The librarian can't stop at the moment, perhaps, to deliver a lecture on reference books, so he goes to the Dictionary of National Biography, finds a reference to first editions in *Notes and Queries*, gives the child the information and

sends her away. The librarian has had a valuable bit of training. But what has the child gained? The fact is worth nothing; the way to find the fact everything.

Let the teacher give an "hour examination" on the use of the library, to be counted as regular work, and the scholars will find out how to look up a subject for themselves. If the examination is announced a week beforehand, they will come to the librarian in twos and threes. Then he can give the time necessary to explain the different reference books, the use of the catalog, etc.

I have prepared below an examination paper. Where a library does not happen to have a particular reference book, another question could be substituted. These questions might be given

to children to guide them in studying the catalog and the books. A new list, based on the same lines, could easily be prepared for the examination.

LIBRARY EXAMINATION.

(Grammar or High School Grade.)

Time: one hour.

- I. (a) Arrange the following in alphabetical order, according to the system used in the library catalog:
 - M'Keever.
 - Boy's book of sports
 - Smith, Sir William.
 - Architecture.
 - Ockham.
 - Macmillan.
 - McKenzie.
 - O'Connor.
 - Boys' and girls' annual.
 - O glad new year.
 - Smith, Sidney.
 - Architectural review.
- (b) Under what headings in the catalog would you look for information on the robin?
- II. In what books of reference would you look for a life of Paul Revere or Benjamin Franklin?
- III. To what reference book would you go for:
 - (a) A life of St. Chrysostom.
 - (b) An account of Chinese immigration.
 - (c) A detailed account of Seneca.
 - (d) The Boston tea party.
- IV. How does the Century Dictionary differ from Worcester and Webster?
- V. (a) In studying the history of France would you look in the Britannica or in Chambers' Encyclopædia?
- (b) Wherein is Chambers' preferable to the Britannica?
- VI. (a) Where would you find the Constitution of the United States?
- (b) A summary of the events of the year?
- VII. Where would you look for the author of a character called Sir Giles Overreach?
- VIII. Where would you find the meaning of *Sine die*?
- IX. Where would you find the quotation, "A thing of beauty is a joy for ever"?
- X. Write a short composition on the way to look up a subject in the library.

WORK WITH THE LIBRARY AND SCHOOLS IN MILWAUKEE.

From the 17th annual (1894) report of the Milwaukee Public Library.

In the year 1888 the present system of issuing books to children in the schools was begun. The system was described in the report of that year. The idea has developed into so important a feature of the work of the library that it seems but just to redescribe it. It seems especially appropriate to do so, as Milwaukee may fairly claim precedence both in point of time when the scheme was organized and the extent to which the work has been carried. Fifteen per cent. of our whole circulation was reached in this way, almost twice the use of the regular delivery stations.

Various ways of connecting the public library with the public school have, of course, been in use in other cities for years with good results. These methods seem to us to fail more or less to accomplish the point at which this library aims, which is, to help the individual child to love good books and, equally, to teach him where he can get them.

The details of the method are as follows:

Every class teacher is invited, is even urged, to come to the library and choose, directly from the shelves, books enough to supply her children. If she has 50 children she chooses 50 books. Her choice is carefully examined, as the books are listed in the library before being sent to the schools. If, in the judgment of the assistants in charge, the teacher has by chance included anything unsuitable for the purpose, she is written to and helped to find other and better books.

The library next sends the box of books by its expressman to the school, where they are given into the charge of the class teacher. Before this point is reached the teacher has guided and helped her children to get library cards. She is discouraged from herself signing the guarantee which the trustees require before any card is issued. The library regards it as important that the parents or guardians should sanction the reading of the child by signing the guarantee. In taking the paper home for the father to sign, the child very often acts as the best kind of library missionary. The knowledge of the library and its privileges is often thus carried into homes where it was before entirely unknown.

After the books are received at the school the teacher acts as a librarian. She is, however, a librarian who knows the tastes and needs of each of her borrowers, which is a very great advantage. The books are charged to the children precisely as would be done at the library, thus relieving the teacher from any responsibility while they are in the children's hands.

The first year 2235 books were given out 6728 times in this way; last year 4351 books were given out 14,275 times; this year 14,980 books were given out 42,863 times by 153 teachers in 36 public schools, six evening schools, one State Normal, one parochial and one Sunday

school. Only one private school has been on our list this year. The library hopes to have more another year.

Few teachers ever drop the plan after once trying it, and many of them are very earnest in their commendation of the good effects on the children. The library traces a very good result upon the teachers themselves. The mere knowledge of, and contact with so many charming books is a pleasure and a benefit to them. The children too, come to the teachers in an unofficial way, which is good for both. The teachers get many affecting and softening glimpses of the children's home life. Altogether it seems another verification of the blessing of the old Froebel motto: "Come, let us live with our children."

Pictures.—Another very charming possibility has developed in the school work. The library, for reading-room needs, takes several copies of *Harper's Weekly*, the *London Illustrated News*, and other good picture papers. Only one copy of these papers is bound, the others not being in fit condition. The best of the pictures have been cut out, pasted on sheets of heavy manilla paper, and constitute a collection of wood-engravings which is interesting in the extreme. The teachers select such pictures as they wish for their classes, and they are sent to the schools in much the same way that the books are, except that they are not taken home by the children. The intent is not to add another task, but to give the children pleasure, and in giving it, to add that unconscious culture which beautiful pictures so easily carry.

GROWTH OF THE TRAVELLING LIBRARIES SYSTEM.

THE last bill passed by the Legislature of Michigan, at its recent session, was that providing for the loaning of books from the state library to local libraries on methods similar to those used in New York state. An annual appropriation of \$5000 is placed, for this purpose, at the disposal of Mrs. Mary C. Spencer, state librarian, and a further sum of \$2500 is voted for the purchase of "travelling libraries," to be sent to communities where no local libraries exist. Montana, too, is now entitled to enrollment among the "library" states. On March 19, a bill "to provide circulating libraries for Montana, and to provide for their management," was signed by the governor and became a law. The act appropriates a sum of \$1000 for 1895, \$500 for 1896, and \$300 annually thereafter, for the creation of, and purchase of books for "the circulating libraries of the state of Montana." These libraries shall consist of 100 books each, and they shall be controlled and managed by a state board composed of the superintendent of public instruction, the attorney-general, and the state auditor. Another state to accept the travelling library idea is Minnesota, where a bill has been introduced into the legislature providing for the establishment of the system. The purchase of the books, their arrangement in libraries, and, in fact, the entire management

of the work, are put in the hands of the committee on university extension of the faculty of the state university.

THE BEST 25 BOOKS OF 1894.

A LIST of 237 of the leading books of 1894 was recently submitted by the New York Library Association to the librarians of New York and other states to obtain from them an expression of opinion respecting the best 25 books of 1894 to be added to a village library. From 160 lists returned the following choice is indicated:

	No. Votes.
Ward, Mrs. Humphry. Marcella.	97
Kidd, Benjamin. Social evolution.	88
Calne, Hall. Manxman.	82
Fiske, John. History of the United States.	81
Drummond, Henry. Ascent of man.	78
Kipling, Rudyard. Jungle book.	74
Du Maurier, George. Trilby.	72
Brooks, E. S. Century book for young Americans.	63
Cary, Edward. George William Curtis.	63
Century cyclopedia of names.	59
Larned, J. W. History for ready reference.	58
Wilkins, M. E. Pembroke.	58
Hope, Anthony. Prisoner of Zenda.	57
Griffin, W. E. Brave Little Holland.	52
Pickard, S. T. Life and letters of John G. Whittier.	52
Blackmore, R. D. Perlycross.	49
Doyle, A. C. Memoirs of Sherlock Holmes.	49
Abbott, C. C. Birds about us.	48
Burroughs, John. Riverby.	43
Brooks, Noah. Abraham Lincoln.	42
Weyman, S. J. Under the red robe.	42
Murray, David. Story of Japan.	41
Crawford, F. M. Katharine Lauderdale.	40
Warner, C. D. Golden house.	40
Crockett, S. B. The stickit minister.	39
Curtis, G. W. Literary and social essays.	39

AN A. L. A. BIBLIOGRAPHY.

MISS HELEN C. SILLIMAN, of the class of 1895 in the New York State Library School, has undertaken the compilation of a list of all publications of members of the A. L. A. She has included, of course, all the articles that have appeared in the 20 volumes of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, and all the literary work reported by prominent members for the World's Fair exhibit at Chicago, with such additional items as she has been able to find. So much of the work of the A. L. A. members has been in pamphlets, contributions to magazines, or local publications, that it will be impossible to make this list at all satisfactory without the co-operation of all the members, and Miss Silliman requests each one with whom she has not already communicated to send to her at the State Library, Albany, N. Y., a list of any books, pamphlets or articles outside the LIBRARY JOURNAL, not only on library topics but including everything which he has published to date. Obviously such a list will be very interesting and useful, and it is to be hoped that every member will heed the request and make the report promptly.

THE PROPOSED NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY.

THE necessary legislation to permit of the consolidation of the Astor and Lenox libraries and the Tilden Trust Fund into the great "New York Public Library" was brought before the Assembly on March 14. On that date Speaker Fish introduced into the Legislature an act, so amending the bill providing for the "consolidation of library companies in the city of New York," as to meet the special needs of the three corporations concerned. This bill passed the Assembly after a third reading, and received the Governor's signature on April 1. We give herewith the full text of the bill, which is entitled "An act to amend chapter 541 of the laws of 1892, entitled 'An act to permit the consolidation of library companies in the city of New York.'" It is as follows:

*The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:**

Section 1. Section one of the act entitled "An act to permit the consolidation of library companies in the city of New York," approved May 13, 1892, being chapter 541 of the laws of 1892, is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

§ 1. Any corporation or corporations heretofore or hereafter organized under any general or special law of this state as a library company, or for the purpose of carrying on any library in the city and county of New York [is hereby authorized to consolidate such company or companies], may be consolidated with any other corporation or corporations, organized for the same or similar purposes, under any general or special law of this state, into a single corporation in the manner following: The respective boards of directors or trustees of the said corporations may enter into and make an agreement for the consolidation of the said corporations, prescribing the terms and conditions thereof, the mode of carrying the same into effect, the name of the new corporation, the number of trustees thereof (not less than five nor more than [twelve] twenty-one), and the names of the trustees who shall manage the concerns of the new corporation for the first year, and until others shall be elected in their places. If either of the [companies so incorporated] corporations so consolidating shall be a stock company, then the said agreement [shall further] may either provide that the new corporation shall have no stock, or may prescribe the amount of capital of the new corporation, the number of shares of [the] stock into which the same is to be divided (which capital shall not be larger in amount than the fair aggregate value of the property, franchises and rights of the several [companies] corporations thus to be consolidated), and the manner of distributing such capital among such consolidated corporations, or the holders of the stock of the same with such other particulars as they may deem necessary.

§ 2. Section two of said act is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

§ 2. If any such corporation so consolidating shall have no members or stockholders, other than its directors or trustees, said agreement of its directors or trustees shall be deemed to be the agreement of such corporation. [Such agreement of the directors or trustees of such corporation shall not be deemed to be the agreement of the said corporations so proposing to consolidate until after it has been submitted to the members or stockholders of the corporations intending to consolidate at a meeting thereof, to be called upon a notice of at least thirty days, specifying the time and place of such meeting and the object thereof, to be addressed to each of the said members or stockholders, when their place of residence is known by the secretary, and deposited in the post-office, and published at least once in each week for four successive weeks in one of the newspapers published in the city and county of New York, where the said corporations shall have their respective places of business, and has been sanctioned and approved, in the event of either or any of the corporations consolidating being a stock company, by the stockholders of such company by a vote of at least two-thirds in amount of the stockholders present at such meeting, voting by ballot in regard to such agreement either in person or by proxy, each share of the capital stock being entitled to one vote; and when such agreement of the directors or trustees of such corporations has been sanctioned and approved by each of the meetings of the respective members or stockholders of the said corporations separately, after being submitted to such meetings in the manner above mentioned, then such agreement of the directors or trustees shall be deemed to be the agreement of the said several corporations; and a sworn copy of the proceedings at such meetings made by the secretaries thereof, respectively, and attached to the said agreement, shall be evidence of the holding and of the action of such meetings in the premises.]

If any such corporation so consolidating shall have members or stockholders other than its directors or trustees, said agreement of its directors or trustees shall not be deemed to be the agreement of such corporation until the same shall have been ratified by a vote of at least two-thirds of the members or two-thirds in interest of the stockholders present and voting in person or by proxy at a meeting of the members or stockholders of such corporation to be called upon a notice of at least thirty days, specifying the time, place and object of such meeting, mailed postpaid to each member or stockholder whose place of residence is known to the secretary and published at least once in each week for four successive weeks in a newspaper published in the city of New York. A sworn copy of the proceedings of any such meeting made by the secretary of the corporation holding the same and attached to said agreement shall be evidence of the holding and of the action of such meeting in the premises. If any stockholder or member shall, at said meeting of the stockholders or members, or within twenty days thereafter, object to the said consolidation and demand payment for his stock or interest in such corporation, such stockholder or member or said new corporation if

* Matter in italics is new; matter in brackets [] is old law to be omitted.

consolidation take effect at any time thereafter may apply at any time within sixty days after such meeting of the stockholders or members, to the supreme court at any special term thereof, held in the city and county of New York, upon at least eight days' notice to the new [company] corporation, for the appointment of three persons to appraise the value of his said stock or interest, and said court shall appoint three such appraisers and shall designate the time and place of the first meeting of such appraisers, and give such directions in regard to their proceedings on said appraisal as shall be deemed proper, and shall also direct the manner in which payment for such stock shall be made to such stockholder or member. The court may fill any vacancies in the board of appraisers occurring by refusal or neglect to serve or otherwise. The appraisers shall meet at the time and place designated, and they or any two of them, after being duly sworn honestly and faithfully to discharge their duties, shall estimate and certify the value of such stock or interest at the time of such dissent as aforesaid, and deliver one copy of their appraisal to the said new [company] corporation, and another to the said stockholder or member if demanded; the charges and expenses of the appraisers shall be paid by the new [company] corporation. When the new corporation shall have paid the amount of the appraisal as directed by the court, such stockholder or member shall cease to have any interest in the said stock and in the corporate property of the said corporation, and the said stock or interest may be held or disposed of by the said new corporation.

§ 3. Section three of said act is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

§ 3. Upon the making [sanctioning and approving] of the said agreement [in the preceding sections mentioned in the manner therein required], as hereinbefore provided, and the filing of duplicates or counterparts thereof, [and of a verified copy of the proceedings at the meetings of the stockholders mentioned in the preceding sections] in the office of the clerk of the city and county of New York, and in the office of the secretary of state, and in the case of any corporations having members or stockholders other than their directors or trustees, upon the ratification of said agreement in the manner above provided, and the filing with said agreement of a verified copy of the proceedings of the meetings of the members or stockholders required by the preceding section, then, and immediately thereafter, the said corporations [agreed to be consolidated] whose boards of directors or trustees shall have united in said agreement shall be merged and consolidated into [a] the new corporation provided for in the said agreement, to be known by the corporate name therein mentioned, and the details of such agreement shall be carried into effect as provided therein.

§ 4. Section four of said act is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

§ 4. Upon the consolidation of the said corporations [and the organization of such new company as hereinbefore prescribed] all and sin-

gular the rights, privileges, franchises and interests of any kind belonging to and enjoyed by the said several corporations so [consolidated] consolidating, and every species of property, real, personal and mixed, and things in action thereunto belonging, [mentioned in said agreement of consolidation] shall be [deemed to be] transferred to and vested in and may be held and enjoyed by such new corporation, without any [other] deed or transfer; and such new corporation shall hold and enjoy the same, and all rights of property, privileges, franchises and interests of either of the said several corporations in the same manner and to the same extent [as if the said several companies so consolidated had continued to retain the title and transact the business of such corporations] as the same were or might have been held and enjoyed by the several corporations so consolidating. Said new corporation shall have power to acquire, hold, possess, enjoy and dispose of all the property, real or personal, of said several corporations so consolidating, and all such additional donations, grants, devises or bequests, subject to all the provisions of law relating to devises or bequests by last will and testament, as may be made in further support of its library, collections and objects, or any of the same; and may make such investments as any of the corporations so consolidating might lawfully make, or as may be authorized by the terms of any such donation, grant, devise or bequest; and any devise or bequest contained in any last will and testament made before or after such consolidation to or for the benefit of any of the corporations so consolidating shall not fail by reason of such consolidation, but the same shall ensure to the benefit of the said new corporation; and the title to all real and personal estate, and all rights and privileges acquired and enjoyed by either of the said corporations so consolidating shall not be deemed to revert or to be impaired by such act of consolidation or anything relating thereto.

§ 5. Section six of said act is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

§ 6. The new corporation organized under this act shall be permitted to maintain and carry on any form of library and to promote any of the objects authorized by the charter of either or any of the [companies] corporations which have been consolidated.

§ 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

On March 13 the formal assent of the Astor trustees to the consolidation was obtained. The details of consolidation and administration still remain to be determined, as does the selection of a site. Besides the Lenox site, Bryant Park and Morningside Heights, the present site of Columbia College, on Madison avenue and Fiftieth street, has been suggested, but it is probable that the Lenox site will be utilized, at least as a temporary home. The various desirable and available sites were discussed at the March meeting of the New York Library Club, reported elsewhere. (See p. 129.) The absorption of the Free Circulating Library and its branches into the proposed great public library system is also suggested.

State Library Associations.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

A MEETING of the Massachusetts Library Club was held on March 1, 1895, at Wesleyan Hall, Boston. The morning session opened with an interesting and valuable paper by Mr. Robert T. Swan, Mass. Commissioner of Public Records, upon "Paper and ink." The best paper is made of linen and new cotton rags in about equal proportions. Wood papers are of two kinds, the ground wood, which is brittle and quickly discolors, and the chemically prepared, where the wood is disintegrated, without, at least by the soda process, immediately destroying the fibre. Until time has tested these products it is safe to use rag paper for all purposes of record. A free-flowing, yet black, non-thickening and permanent ink has not yet been discovered. Nutgall and iron inks are the safest; the writing is at first pale, but blackens by oxidization; it should not be blotted, but the ink should sink into the paper. Even if the color finally disappears, it can be restored. If permanency is not essential, a pleasanter ink can be used.

Mr. Lane said that different inks should be used for different purposes. When a new ink is tried in the accessions book, the name of the ink and the date should be recorded on the margin. He thought for use on cards an ink should erase well. Mr. Swan said that the nutgall inks were the hardest to erase, being dyes. Aniline inks were stains; carbon inks coated the surface and were most easily erased.

In reply to a question, Mr. Swan said that he had tested some typewriter inks and could not remove them except by removing the surface of the paper. He thought a permanent ink for typewriter ribbon could be got, but would urge care in selection, and time alone could make a conclusive test. Some courts now permit the use of the typewriter in records. Blue and red typewriter inks are probably not permanent.

In reply to Mr. Jones, Mr. Swan said that a test of inks by weather was preferable to any chemical test, and was the next best test to time.

Mr. Swan showed a number of samples of paper and ink, and the results of weather tests on various inks, also faded writings restored by application of acid, and some interesting samples of paper entirely disintegrated by age or damp, and preserved by mounting between sheets of thin paper or silk treated with paraffine.

Mr. Foster then spoke of the deterioration of paper used in books and periodicals, and asked Mr. Lane to speak to this point.

Mr. Lane said that all books worth preserving were likely to be reprinted from time to time, and the durability of the paper was of less importance in their case than in periodicals and newspapers. Process-work requires the use of a paper coated with a finish of clay and glue; this will last fairly well because a good paper is needed to carry the coating. Newspapers are printed on a paper containing 90 % of wood-pulp. They are nothing but thin boards, and certain to go to pieces in a short time. The practical difficulties in the way of printing spe-

cial editions of newspapers for libraries are probably insuperable. It must be done by putting on a roll of special paper at the end of an edition. But for use in modern presses paper must be freshly unwrapped and not allowed to dry. It cannot stand about from one day to the next, as the roll gets out of shape and will not print well.

Wood-pulp papers came in about 1865. In a file of the *Boston Journal* at the Athenæum, 1866 was in good condition; 1872 pretty bad; 1880, was still good. The only thing to do with newspapers is to bind fresh copies, keep in a place not too dry, lying, not standing, and label them "Handle with care."

In some wood papers a little cotton waste is introduced for strength.

The report of the committee on the publication of lists of books suitable for public libraries, as presented at the last meeting, was then taken up, and, after a discussion of some length, in which it appeared to be the common opinion that the smaller libraries would derive considerable benefit from these lists, a ballot was taken and it was voted that the club undertake the publication of such lists on the plan suggested in the report of the committee in 1892. This is, in brief, the publication of monthly lists by a committee of 17—chairman, secretary, and 15 readers in five groups of three. The books are to be supplied by the courtesy of the Library Bureau, each submitted to three readers, and only books approved by all admitted. Titles will be annotated when necessary. The lists, which will include only adult fiction, will be distributed without charge to members of the club, and sold to others who wish them.

The afternoon session was devoted to a consideration of matters of detail connected with the supplying of books to public schools, such as: Are cards issued? Is the charge made to teachers, or to the school? Who is responsible for the books? How many books are issued? For what time? etc. The discussion was conversational in character, and included the two-book system and the ethics of fines, besides the relation of the schools and libraries in general.

Mr. Jones described his methods, but said that he, personally, did not believe that loaning books to teachers for use in school was properly a part of the work of a public library. The school board should provide these books for teachers' use. A library can do more good with its books by loaning them directly to the children, or placing them at their disposal in the building.

Mr. Houghton said that he asked teachers to give him a list of subjects in advance, and then had the useful books got together on a table and delegated his best assistant to help the children. Every book in his library was a reference book, and when the children want them no one else can have them.

Miss Lamprey said that the same plan was in use at the Ames Free Library in North Easton. Children could not use the catalog.

Mrs. Sanders said the younger children formed a large part of her constituency. She had go at work on China and Japan. She was

with the children from 4 to 6 and after tea. To get little children to come to the library and want to look up a subject — that is the great thing.

Mr. Piper said that the children's reading-room at Cambridge had been opened in October, 1894, and was at once filled. About 170 books were put out for free consultation. He had found that many children merely turned over the leaves of book after book without reading.

Mr. Chase had met with the same difficulty.

Mr. Bolton thought there was an advantage in restricting children to two books in one afternoon.

In four of the libraries represented there was no age limit.

As regards loaning fiction on teachers' cards, it was generally agreed that the latest fiction should not be so loaned, and that teachers should specify of any fiction called for that it is for school use.

Mr. Whitney, of Watertown, thought a library was doing good work in loaning to clubs. He allowed each member of a young men's club to take out two books, and the selection was made by a committee and the books kept at the club-rooms.

Mr. Bolton said that the trustees of the Brookline library had just authorized the loan of a number of books to a working-people's club, and had assumed the responsibility for loss.

W. H. TILLINGHAST, *Secretary*.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE executive board of the New York Library Association has issued a circular letter to librarians of the state, urging enrollment in the association and briefly stating the various means by which it is planned to extend the influence and usefulness of the organization. The large attendance at and the interest awakened by the joint meeting of the state association with the New York Library Club, in January, "indicated most clearly the possibilities of the association as a power, not only in shaping library legislation, but in awakening in the minds of the people a keener perception and clearer understanding of the value of the library to the home, the school, and the workshop.

"Thus far the only cost of membership has been the payment of one dollar on joining, without annual dues. Since the organization in 1890 no assessment has been made. But it is evident that a wider field of work is open. The association has voted to hold two additional meetings each year. The plans of the executive board include the publication of a select list of the books of 1894 to be submitted to the votes of librarians. An occasional library canvass of a section of the state may also be made. In carrying out these plans, and many more that might be suggested, money will be needed for printing and postage, and it is clear that without a larger membership the association will exist in name only."

The board has therefore decided to call for a new enrollment, and has fixed the assessment for the current year at \$1. It has also been thought advisable, to avoid confusion between city and

state, that the name of the association be changed. It is therefore proposed to amend Article I. of the constitution to read: "The Association shall be called the 'Library Association of the State of New York.'"

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

THE 15th regular meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held in the rooms of the Free Library of Philadelphia on Monday evening, March 11, at 8 o'clock, with the president, Mr. John Thomson, in the chair.

After the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting, Dr. Bernard C. Steiner, of the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, read the paper of the evening, entitled "Rev. Thomas Bray and early public libraries in America." A vote of thanks was tendered to Dr. Steiner and his paper was ordered to be printed.

A discussion ensued on "Newspapers in libraries."

Reports were heard from the executive committee and the committees on legislation and occasional papers.

Mr. W. F. Wickersham exhibited the architect's plans of the memorial library to be erected at Kennett Square, and described the proposed interior arrangements. Seven new members were elected. A special meeting was announced to be held at Wilmington, Delaware, some time in April.

ALFRED RIGLING, *Secretary*.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

THERE was an informal meeting of the librarians of San Francisco and vicinity on February 22 at the Free Public Library, to take the preliminary steps towards forming an association of librarians and those in sympathy with library work, for occasional meetings for the interchange of ideas on the means of increasing the usefulness of the library, and bringing it into closer relations with the public. Eight libraries were represented, and it was decided to form a permanent organization under the name of the Library Association of Central California, and to include in its membership all interested in library and educational work.

At a meeting on March 8 a constitution was adopted and the following officers were elected for the first year: President, J. C. Rowell, University of California; vice-president, G. T. Clark, Free Public Library, San Francisco; secretary, A. M. Jellison, Mechanics' Institute, San Francisco; treasurer, Andrew Cleary, Odd Fellows' Library, San Francisco. There is also an executive committee of five to be appointed by the president to act in an advisory capacity.

The trustees of the Free Public Library have generously offered a room for meeting purposes.

There will be meetings on the second Friday of each month, except June, July and August. The topic for discussion at the April meeting is, "Should the public have free access to the shelves of a library?"

A. M. JELLISON, *Secretary*.

Library Clubs.

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

THE March meeting of the New York Library Club was held at the Library of the Young Men's Christian Association, N. Y. City, on Thursday, March 14.

After a short preliminary business session, Mr. Cole read a paper on "Libraries of the twentieth century," in which he described a visit to the State Library at Albany in 1895, telling of various changes there and elsewhere in the management of libraries, resulting in an almost ideal arrangement. All public libraries will then be under the control of the state, and the arrangement and cataloging will be reduced almost to a science. Mr. Berry proposed that the paper be placed on file in order that the club of 100 years hence might have the benefit of these ideas, but Mr. Cole replied it was already published in the "Occasional papers" of the Pennsylvania Library Club.

The regular subject for discussion—"The proposed combination of the Astor, Lenox, and Tilden Foundations"—was then taken up, and President Nelson, in introducing it, remarked that the report that the Lenox Library had voted favorably on the question was premature, as the trustees had not yet taken action in the matter. He said that the present discussion would deal mainly with the question of location, and in view of that fact he would read extracts from the Astor charter, and from the will of Miss Lenox relating to the land given by her. After he had finished the reading, Mr. Weeks, of Newark, who seemed to fear that the discussion would drift into technicalities of law, said he thought the question should be considered only in its relation to the members as librarians. Where can such a library be established to be most useful to people within 25 miles of New York? It must be convenient to well-known lines of travel, not at Columbia Heights, as has been suggested, where it would be accessible only to students, but near 42d street, perhaps on the present site of the Lenox Library. Part of the buildings are already there; it is quiet, and yet accessible to most people.

Mr. Poole said that while we have nothing to do with the legal question, still we are bound to respect wills, otherwise people will cease to give their money to public institutions. There should be a circulating library within at least a mile of every inhabitant, but Bryant Park seemed to him the most desirable site for the central library.

The objection that had been raised, that we must not spoil the parks, Mr. Wing thought no objection, since the new building would be on the site of the reservoir, and would leave as much room as before for the people, while the surroundings would be much more beautiful. The city should certainly give the ground for the library, and if Bryant Park could be secured it would be the most desirable place.

Mr. Leipziger thought there would be no difficulty in getting the ground if the trustees should decide on that site, for it has already

been considered for a college; but he thought that Morningside Heights would be a very desirable site, since Columbia College is to be there, and the libraries would be a great help to each other.

Mr. Baker said: "The consolidation scheme is a realization that no one would have dared hope for six months ago. The names of Astor and Lenox are completely lost in the grand scheme, and it is a surprise to every one that these institutions would allow it."

"If it is possible to make this great reservoir of books, it would seem foolish for Columbia to try to rival it, even though a great distance behind, and so the two should co-operate, and for that reason should be near each other. We must decide where the centre of New York will be in the future. People from New Jersey will then come in to New York on the bridge near 70th street, and we have no reason to think that the Grand Central will be so far downtown 25 years from now. Educational institutions are all going North, and it is to the people who frequent them, and not to business men, that this great reference library will be of most service. There should be circulating libraries with reference departments all over the city, but this great central library is to be for scholars and should be near them."

Judge Peck favored the idea that the new library should be near Columbia. He said that 25 years hence there would not be a corner of New York inaccessible to outsiders, but the grave question was, whether these three funds could ever be united. It looked to him as if the Astor Library could never be moved, and likewise the Lenox, so it seemed entirely improbable that the combination could ever take place, and the present discussion had therefore been on a subject too much of a speculation as yet to be seriously considered.

President Nelson then closed the discussion by saying that he believed if the givers of those funds were alive, they would gladly accede to this proposed consolidation.

HARRIET B. PRESCOTT, *Secretary*.

WASHINGTON LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

THE fifth regular meeting of the Washington Library Association was held at Columbian University, Feb. 27, President A. R. Spofford presiding.

Mr. J. E. Watkins, formerly associated with the Pennsylvania R. R. Company, now of the National Museum, read a paper of unusual interest on the development of the railroad library. The railroad library had its inception in the stage-coach era, when innkeepers placed newspapers and periodicals, with a few books of general interest, at the service of the employees of the coach companies and the passengers who stopped at the hostleries over night. When the canal packet and the steamboat became a commercial success, the sale of newspapers and the rental and sale of novels became a perquisite of the bartender or the steward.

During the first decade of the railroad era, between 1830 and 1840, the ubiquitous newsboy

became a recognized element in the railway service, and from this time the railway employe has looked to him for his regular supply of literature.

Mr. Watkins confined the later development of the railroad library to the libraries located on the lines of the Pennsylvania R. R. Company.

Probably the first important railroad library in America was organized at Altoona, Pa., August 7, 1858—the Mechanics' Library. It had at times a flourishing and at times a rather struggling existence. At present the library corporation is in a prosperous condition, and is doing excellent service among the employes of the Pennsylvania R. R. Company in the direction of lecture and study courses, in addition to the usual library work. At the close of 1894 the library numbered over 20,000 volumes; 1529 books were added during the year; while the receipts were nearly \$4000. At the beginning of the present year there were 35 railroad libraries and reading-rooms on the Pennsylvania lines, 21 of these being east of Pittsburgh.

The most recent of these libraries is that organized about a year ago in connection with the Pennsylvania R. R. Department of the Y. M. C. A., in West Philadelphia. It was founded in 1887, the Pennsylvania R. R. leasing a lot for 99 years at a nominal rental. To January 1, \$70,600 had been expended for a handsome granite building. The library was formally opened on January 24, 1894.

These libraries, with few exceptions, are placed at points where access can be had to books in local libraries. No attempt has been made to provide a system whereby books may be furnished to the agents, trackmen, and other employes who live at the small stations, where there is little opportunity for recreation, save in reading books and papers.

Of the 104,000 employes on the 8000 miles of road controlled by the Pennsylvania R. R. Company, it is estimated that about 20,000 or 25,000 depend almost entirely upon the Sunday newspaper for their miscellaneous reading. It is this latter class which needs to be provided with books from the central libraries. Mr. Watkins has in mind a system which he proposes to bring to the attention of the railroad authorities, which provides that printed catalogs and supplementary lists of new books shall be sent to, and posted in, the smaller stations by ticket agents, who shall transmit applications for the withdrawal of books from the central libraries and forward and return the books by railroad train-service free of charge.

Mr. Watkins was followed by Mr. W. P. Cutter, librarian of the Agricultural Department library, who gave an account of the "travelling libraries" of New York State, of the "home libraries" of the Boston Children's Aid Society, and of the Pullman car collections of books.

Mr. H. Presnell, as chairman of a committee on the loaning of books among the librarians of Washington, presented a report outlining a very liberal policy.

THE sixth regular meeting of the association was held March 27.

Mr. B. Pickman Mann spoke upon "Comprehensive Indexes," referring especially to the indexing of scientific literature and the proposed plan of the Royal Society of London regarding international co-operation in indexing.

Mr. F. H. Parsons, formerly librarian of the U. S. Coast Survey, read a careful paper on "The care of maps." Having had in his charge one of the largest collections of maps in this country, Mr. Parsons had unusual facilities for making a thorough study of this vexed problem. His paper is, in consequence, of unusual interest to all librarians who have to deal with maps.

OLIVER L. FASSIG, *Secretary*.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

THE March meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held at the Newberry Library, March 8, 1895, at 8 p.m., the president, Miss Dexter, in the chair. In the absence of the secretary, Mr. Merrill was appointed secretary *pro tem*.

The following names were proposed by the executive committee for membership: Misses Maud R. Henderson, Gertrude Forstall, Sarah Dickinson, Cornelia Marvin, and Miss Sloat; and Messrs. Norman Williams, A. J. Rudolph, and J. Dieserud; and were accepted by the club.

Mr. H. M. Stanley, librarian of Lake Forest University, read a short paper explaining his system of making an extensive finding-list for a small library. The plan consists in printing a column of entries, which are pasted into a blank book in one column, leaving five other columns for other insertions; when all six columns are full, the whole is to be reprinted and pasted as at first.

Mr. Wickersham then read an excellent paper entitled "A brief history of some libraries of Chicago." The establishment and development of the Public Library, the Newberry, the Library of the University of Chicago, the Chicago Historical Society, and the Law Institute were described, largely from Mr. Wickersham's personal knowledge of these institutions. His paper embodied many items of interest that could not be gleaned from official records. On motion of Mr. Merrill, the thanks of the club were tendered to Mr. Wickersham.

The election of officers for the year ending March, 1896, was next taken up. On motion of Mr. Roden, it was voted to take a preliminary ballot for each officer, the three persons receiving the highest number of votes to become candidates for election. Mr. Burchard and Dr. Wire were appointed tellers by the chair.

The preliminary ballot for the office of president resulted in giving Mr. Wickersham 11 votes, Mr. Hild 7, Mr. Gauss 4, Dr. Wire 3, Miss Dexter, Miss Sharp, and Mr. Merrill 1 each. All but Mr. Gauss and Dr. Wire having withdrawn their names, a ballot was taken and gave Mr. Gauss 22 out of 31 votes cast. Mr. Gauss was thereby declared elected.

The preliminary ballot for office of first vice-president gave Miss Sharp 18 out of 26 votes, and on motion of Mr. Hild her election was made unanimous.

The first ballot for second vice-president giv-

ing Dr. Wire 10 out of 28 votes, on motion of Mr. Roden his election was made unanimous. Mr. Hild moved that the secretary be directed to cast one vote for Mr. Burchard, the retiring secretary, and the latter was re-elected; Dr. Wire having made a similar motion in regard to Mr. Merrill, the latter was re-elected treasurer for the ensuing year.

Mr. Roden moved that a vote of thanks be offered to the retiring officers. The meeting then adjourned.

W. S. MERRILL, *Secretary pro tem.*

Reviews.

CONNECTICUT. P. L. COMMITTEE. Connecticut public library document, no. 1, 1895 (whole no. 4); report of the Connecticut Public Library Committee, 1893-4. 1895. 116 p. O.

This is the first report of the Connecticut Public Library, and it is a gratifying record of well-directed and fruitful work. The committee was organized under the "law relating to libraries," passed in 1893, and promptly began its work by the distribution of a circular, setting forth the main features of the law regarding the establishment of libraries by state aid, and urging communities to take advantage of it. The report gives the text of the law, the circulars issued by the committee, and directions as to the action to be taken by towns desiring to establish libraries. The method of purchase and distribution of books is described, and a sample list of about 150 v. is shown. During the period covered by the report, nine towns have voted to establish libraries, and books to the value of \$200 have been sent to six of these. Specially interesting is a short article, entitled "Suggestions for the smallest libraries," by Miss C. M. Hewins, who gives simple and concise directions for the routine work of a library of from 300-2000 v. A series of tables gives statistics of Connecticut libraries from 1891-1893, showing the name and location of the library, its general character, number of volumes, yearly accessions, circulation, income and source, library building with name of donor, if any, information as to use by children and mechanics, stock of books on education or pedagogy, and name of librarian. These statistics have been compiled with care and attention to detail, and afford an interesting bird's-eye view of the library status of Connecticut. Out of 171 towns, 13 possess libraries, owned and controlled by the town and free to all the people; three have libraries "owned and controlled by the municipality and free to all the people of the municipality"; 22 have free libraries having no connection with the town; five have libraries to which the town appropriates money, but is not represented in the management; 56 have libraries where a fee is charged; and 71 towns have no library. Following the statistical tables are 50 pages of "sketches of libraries," collected and arranged by Miss Alice S. McQuaid, giving in alphabetical order short accounts of the history of

those libraries from which information could be obtained; many good illustrations of the various buildings are included. The report contains also an historical sketch of "Some early libraries," by H. F. Bassett, librarian of the Silas Bronson Library of Waterbury; and the text of various "special acts" relating to libraries and passed at the 1893 session of the legislature.

DENVER (Col.) P. L. Public library hand-book, Denver, Carson-Harper Co., 1895. 182 p. S. pap. 35 c.; cl. 65 c.; mor. \$1.

For about a year past there have appeared from month to month in *Books*, the organ of the Denver Public Library, short papers on prime factors of library work. So apt and lucid were they, that issue in such ephemeral and inconvenient shape seemed unfortunate, and the announcement of their amplification and publication in book form was a most welcome one. The little volume into which these papers have been gathered is issued solely as the production of the Denver Public Library. According to the title-page, it is "by the Public Library of Denver," and the preface bears signature of the same corporation. But, in contradiction to the ancient axiom, the soul of this corporation is easily discoverable. The modest note prefacing the table of contents informs us that "criticisms of the book should be directed against J. C. Dana, who planned it, and edited and revised all ms."—and if criticism, then, too, the recognition and appreciation that it is so much pleasanter and more needful to accord. Mr. Dana has had the co-operation of three members of his staff, F. D. Tandy, John Parsons, and J. M. Lee, to whom full credit is given; but his direction and supervision are manifest throughout. He has contributed nine of the 25 chapters, two others being his work, conjointly with Mr. Tandy. The hand-book owes its existence largely to a process of evolution. It had its inception in an attempt to answer some of the many requests received for information and suggestion as to library work, and its scope gradually widened far beyond the original plans of its projector until it formed a compact "body of library doctrine" as preached and practised at the Denver Public Library. Its immediate usefulness, however, extends far beyond the limits of a single city or state, and though meant especially as a manual for the training classes of the Denver Public Library and for small Colorado libraries, it deserves a front rank among library text-books.

Mr. Dana covers the whole field of library routine in its simpler details. Beginning with the starting of a library, either by gift, legislation, or the expansion of subscription or school libraries, he describes the best means of enlisting and arousing public interest, methods of selecting, buying, lending, and charging books and periodicals, gives suggestions to the public and to assistants, and presents careful and lucid expositions of the *modus operandi* in accession work, delivery-desk methods, classifying, cataloging, stock-taking, binding and rebinding. The keynote of the book seems an earnest belief that "the first duty

of a library is to be used — not to pose as a monument or mausoleum," and all that will make a library more useful, more attractive, more popular — in the best sense of the word — is specially emphasized. In this connection we find suggestions for a plentiful supply and circulation of periodicals, no age limit — "the young people are the library's most hopeful material" — as free access to the books as it is possible to give, an absence of red tape, and a general responsiveness to the borrower's desires and needs. There are several excellent annotated lists — among them, "Books suitable for a small school library"; literary journals, useful in the selection of books; "Some periodicals suitable for a small library"; and "Books on library work." The explanation of the decimal classification and of the classifying and cataloging of a library is so clear and careful that any intelligent novice who had no other guide should be easily brought into the way of light. Lucid as they are, the expositions of cataloging and classification are comprehensive of all essential details, bringing the reader up to the "refinements and niceties, the intricacies and moot points and woes thereof," of which it is not within the province of the "hand-book" to treat. All stages of cataloging are demonstrated by fac-similes of cards and methods of entry in actual use, reduced to fit the small page, but with the proper dimensions stated. Indeed, the many illustrations, covering not only cataloging and classification, but showing order slips, magazine records, application blanks, borrowers' cards, book cards, card pockets, public notices, accession sheets, tags, bindery orders, etc., are a most useful feature of the book. There is an excellent index, and a novel and useful list of "a few definitions," giving simple explanations of the terms most used in library work.

The book is a welcome and useful addition to the literature of what is aptly characterized as "the freemasonry part" of library work, and Mr. Dana and the Denver Public Library are worthy successors to Miss Plummer and Mr. Fletcher in a field where as yet there is little danger of overcrowding.

LARNED, Josephus Nelson. History for ready reference from the best historians, biographers, and specialists. In five vols. Vol. 4 — Nicæa to Tunis. Springfield, C. A. Nichols & Co., 1894.

It is unnecessary to do more than summarize briefly the main features of this fourth volume of Mr. Larned's historical compendium. Its scope is as wide and its mass of information as varied as has been the case in the previous volumes. It is really astonishing to glance down page after page and note the extent and variety of the entries, covering all epochs and subjects within the compass of the plan. The subjects to which most space have been given are Rome, 98 pages; the papacy, 64 pages; printing and press, 20 pages; Russia, 32 pages; Scotland, 42 pages; Slavery, 62 pages; Spain, 44 pages; tariff legislation, 26 pages. On the whole, however, this volume contains comparatively few extended entries, or rather historical essays, the

number of briefer notes being especially large. The maps, plans, etc., comprise maps of Central Europe, Eastern Europe, the Roman Empire, four "development maps" of Spain; a "logical outline" of Roman history; and chronological tables of the ninth and tenth centuries.

WENCKSTERN, Fr. von. A bibliography of the Japanese empire: being a classified list of all books, essays, and maps in European languages relating to Dai Nihon [Great Japan], published in Europe, America, and the East from 1859–93 A.D.; to which is added a fac-simile reprint of Léon Pagès' *Bibliographie Japonaise*, depuis le xve siècle jusqu'à 1859. Leiden, E. J. Brill, 1895. [London, Kegan Paul, Trench, Trübner & Co.] 14+338+68 p. O.

Here is a cosmopolitan work, written by a German, in the English language, containing a photographic fac-simile of a French bibliography with words of praise for its comprehensiveness, and dedicated to an American librarian, "In memoriam Guilielmi Friderici Pooler, illustrissimi bibliothecarii Americani." The preface bears out this character, for it is written in English just enough tinged with German to amuse and give it that charm which often attracts in the pronunciation of a foreign lecturer. It is a work of German thoroughness; some 21,000 lines — long lines in small type — are given to a classified list of all books, essays, and maps in European languages, relating to Dai Nihon (Great Japan), published during only a quarter of a century, from 1859 to 1893. The thoroughness of research may appear from six successive references on p. 158 to *Appleton's Journal*, *Englishwoman's Domestic Magazine*, *Galaxy*, *All the Year Round*, *Rendiconti dei Lincei*, *Murray's Magazine*, and on the opposite page *Gazette de Beaux-Arts*, *Magasin Pittoresque*, *Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum*, *Mem. Lit. and Phil. Soc. Manchester*, *Chemical News*, *Journal of Indian Art*. The title should have read "European languages excepting the Russian." Mr. Wenckstern justifies this omission from the difficulty he "would have had to overcome in order to give an approximately accurate and complete list" of Russian works. It is not said whether this obstacle is ignorance of the language; that certainly would be a sufficient excuse, and as it is shared by most readers, the omission of the Russian literature is little to be deplored. We have not noticed titles in any other Slavic language nor in Hungarian; perhaps there are no books on Japan in those tongues. But we have come across entries in Dutch, Danish, Swedish, Spanish, Italian, French, German, and English, the latter being much the most numerous. The classification is elaborate and well conceived. 23 classes have 82 sub-divisions. The order has some peculiarities. Travels is the 4th class, History the 8th, with Religion and Philosophy, Philology and Belles-Lettres coming between them, and Topography and Hydrography is the 10th, followed by Physiography. The Folk-lore puzzle is well solved by putting it, with Fairy tales and Proverbs, under Ethnography. For the style of

sub-classing take Fine Arts. That has the sections General works, Catalogues of collections, Drama, Enamels and Carving, Lacquer, Metallurgy, Magic Mirror, Music, Pictorial Arts, Pottery.

No large library should be without the work. It should be bought, if for no other reason, to reward the author for a most meritorious piece of work and to lighten his inevitable loss, for he has borne the expense of its preparation himself.

C: A. C.

Library Economy and History.

GENERAL.

PENNSYLVANIA L. CLUB. Occasional papers, no. 2, March, 1895. Philadelphia, 1895. 8 p.O.

Contains an account of "The Halliwell-Phillipps collection," by Prof. Albert H. Smyth; and a paper on "Library law in Pennsylvania," reviewing the most desirable features of library legislation in the various states, by S. H. Ranck. Both papers were read at meetings of the Pennsylvania Library Club.

The UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK has issued as "Circular no. 32," the paper on travelling libraries, by W. R. Eastman, entitled "A new aid to popular education: free travelling libraries," first printed in the *Forum*, Jan., 1895.

LOCAL.

Baltimore, Md. Enoch Pratt F. L. (9th rpt.) Added 13,019; total 149,224, distributed among the central library (96,646 v.) and the five branches. Issued, home use 548,287 (fict. and juv. 76 %); ref. use 29,083. New members 6748; total no. borrowers 28,477. Expenses \$48,211.85.

The circulation of periodicals for the year was 158,035.

Mr. Steiner says: "We have circulated amongst the people of Baltimore since the beginning of 1886, four millions of books, and have now nearly 150,000 volumes accessible to the public. The bare statement of these facts shows the influence this library has exerted upon the city, and the importance of the wise administration of such a large institution. Only three similar libraries in the United States, those of Boston, Chicago, and Cincinnati, surpass us in the number of books they possess, and only three, Chicago, Boston, and New York, in the number of volumes circulated.

"The usefulness of the branch libraries cannot be stated in too strong terms. During the last year 242,308 books were given out by them, and 55,402 periodicals used in their reading-rooms.

"During the year, the second and third parts of the finding list for the main library and the finding list for branch libraries were issued. This completed the fifth edition, and made ours the first large library in the world to issue a complete finding list by the use of the linotype method. A supplement to the fifth edition was at once begun, is all in type, and very soon will

be published. The new finding list was prepared with the greatest care, and it was found necessary to subdivide the classes of books more than ever before, owing to the increase in number of volumes.

"During the coming year, it is intended to issue a sixth edition of the branch library finding list, and to begin a series of quarterly bulletins of recent accessions to the library."

Boston P. L. On Monday, March 15, the library was opened for the delivery of books and the regular business routine. By nine o'clock, when the doors were thrown open, about 30 or 40 persons were waiting to enter the building, and within the next few hours the whole interior of the library had put on an air of business. All of the rooms intended for the public were open, with the exception of the newspaper room, which was closed for a few days longer. Twelve extra assistants have been added to the staff, and the entire library force, including the employees of the binding and cataloging departments, numbers about 140. The library is to be opened every week-day from nine a.m. to six p.m. On Sundays it will be open for readers from two to six p.m. It will be impossible to have the library open in the evening until the installation of the electric plant is completed—probably early in April. A system of civil service examinations, divided into five grades, has been adopted for the appointment of new assistants. Examinations for the various grades will be given at stated intervals, and from the applicants who pass, a certain number will be selected to enter probationary service at the library. For this service there will at first be no pay, but assistants on probation will have opportunities to do occasional substitute work, for which they will receive pay. From this they will gradually be advanced until they enter the regular service. Candidates for promotion in the library will also be required to satisfy the trustees of their fitness by passing the regular examination for the desired position.

Boston P. L. THE NEW LIBRARY IN BOSTON. (In *Harper's Weekly*, Mr. 16, 1895, p. 251-254). il.

An account of the arrangement and architectural features of the new library, illustrated with eight views of the interior.

Burlington, Vt. Fletcher F. L. (21st rpt.) Added 508; total 22,712. Issued, home use 43,942 (fict. and juv. 65½ %); no statistics of ref. use. New registrations 827. Receipts \$2471.96; expenses \$2253.84.

Miss Hagar calls attention to the lack of sufficient shelf-room, the poor heating, and deficient lighting of the library. She also says: "The same system of distributing books through the schools, in use for many years, has been continued. It makes each school accepting the privilege 'practically a branch library with a librarian in the teacher,' who is acquainted with the needs and tastes of the children, and especially with the books that will be most useful to aid or interest them in their lessons. A smaller

number of books was given out to the teachers for use in the schools than last year. Four of the intermediate, two of the primary, most of the grammar schools, and the high school drew books to use in this way. About 650 volumes were thus circulated by the teachers, 30 in the primary schools, 490 in the intermediate schools, 100 in the grammar schools, the remainder in the high school. Many of the scholars in the primary and intermediate schools exchanged their books every week during the school sessions, so each volume was read many times."

California State L., Sacramento. (44-45th rpt.) Added 6739; total 94,752.

Additional shelf-room has been given by the construction of 600 feet of extra shelving, but the space for books is constantly becoming more limited. The appendix contains a useful list of state publications, noted elsewhere, and a summary of the free public libraries of California, giving statistics of the 28 libraries organized and operated under the general law or under city charters.

Chicago P. L. WHERE ALL MAY READ. (In *Chicago Inter-Ocean*, Mr. 17, 1895.) 7 col. 10 ll.

An account of various branches and delivery stations of the library, with lists of the periodicals subscribed for, views of reading-room interiors and exteriors and portraits of the librarian and four of the reading-room superintendents.

Cleveland (O.) P. L. The *Open Shelf*, heretofore published monthly by the library, has been made a quarterly publication, on recommendation of Librarian Brett. The advertising income of the journal proved insufficient to admit of its continuance as a monthly.

Columbus (O.) Public School L. (18th rpt.) Added 3065; total 20,738. Issued, home use 94,642 (fict. 32.27%; juv. 35.60%); ref. use 8096; no record of reading-room use is kept.

The card catalog of the library is complete to date, arranged by author, subject and title. A ms. subject catalog is nearly completed, and when finished will be combined with author and title entries as copy for a printed dictionary catalog.

There is a special collection of school classics, containing about 3730 v.; these are sent in lots of 25 copies to each school for a period of four weeks, with permission for renewal, if desired. They are kept in constant circulation throughout the school year, each set reaching from five to six schools during the year. The books are purchased in lots of from 50 to 150 copies each.

Hartford, Ct. Watkinson L. An exhibition of the rare ancient and modern books obtained by the Watkinson Library at the Columbian Exposition was held during the week of March 15-22. It included valuable editions in literature, fine art, history, biography and travel, and rare books on forestry, vineyard and flower culture.

Hartwell (O.) L. On March 21, the library of the Hartwell Literary Club was formally pre-

sented to the city by the members of the club. The library contains about 500 v.; it will be conducted as a free town library, open one or two days in the week.

Indianapolis (Ind.) P. L. The bill taking the library from the jurisdiction of the school board and placing it under control of a board of directors, which passed the legislature in February, failed to pass the senate for lack of a constitutional majority. It was brought up twice, but was unsuccessful each time.

Los Angeles (Cal.) P. L. (6th rpt.) Added 6353; total 43,777. Issued, home use 450,818 (fict. 40.5%; juv. 10%; current magazines 20%); ref. use 38,271. New members 4709; total membership 18,057. Receipts \$20,452.82; expenses \$20,208.13.

The circulation of pictures and mounted illustrations was 1779 for the year, or .3 per cent. of the total home use.

"Fiction shows an increase, due to the publication of the 'fiction list.' There are 10,000 volumes in the library in classes other than fiction which are not listed, or printed, and which are consequently unknown except through the medium of the shelf-sheets.

"Music has an increased circulation to its credit, and is a particularly satisfactory feature with the borrowers. The demand for many of the popular operas was so great that several duplicate copies of them had to be purchased in order to meet it.

"On March 12, 1894, the new charging system went into effect, each book being provided with a card which remains in the book when in the library, and when 'out' the card is in the slip-case. The cards bear the number of every borrower who has read the book to which the card belongs, and the charges indicate the sex of the reader and the date of the issue of the book. These book-cards have room for 35 issue charges, and the 450 cards which have been filled furnish a very interesting index to the books most widely read in this city. Charles King's books head the list with 26 cards, five being for 'Two soldiers,' four each for 'Foes in ambush,' and 'Starlight ranch,' and three for 'Between the lines,' the remaining 10 being scattered. Rose Nouchette Carey comes next with 25 cards, and 'Little Miss Muffet' leads with five cards, followed by 'Averill' with four cards. Clara Louise Burnham has 22 cards, six of which represent 'Dr. Latimer,' this book having the largest number of issues of any in the library during that time. Next is 'Next door' with five cards. There are nine copies of each of these books, and eight copies each of the King and Carey books. King is a very popular author with boys and young men, the love story being subordinated to the action. Miss Carey is the favorite with girls, both authors occupying the intermediate ground between juvenile and adult fiction."

A list of the most popular writers is given in the following order: Behrens, Clemens, Gunter, Barr, Crawford, Dumas, Sarah Grand, F. Marriott, Burnett, Doyle, Haggard, Stannard, Bayley, Forrester, Barrie, Clifford, Hector. "In

most cases the author's best-known book does not appear to be the popular choice. A book with a sentimental title in any one author's list of novels will be the one most read, regardless of the fame of some other novel. Thomas Hardy affords an illustration of this statement, 'A pair of blue eyes' and 'Far from the madding crowd' being called for oftener than his famous 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles.' In purchasing fiction the policy has been rather to duplicate the works of standard and well-known authors than to furnish a great variety of unknown books." The duplication ranges from 15 copies of each of Miss Alcott's book to two of Trollope's, and includes 13 copies of Hugo, 10 copies of Thackeray, six of Scott, eight of Dickens, seven of Dumas, two of Meredith, etc.

A total of 484 periodicals are regularly received. The reference work, though hampered and retarded by lack of accommodations, has been energetically carried on; a useful expedient for lessening the crowding of the rooms has been the sending to the more advanced classes of the higher grade schools a collection of 50 or 100 books on a given subject being studied at the time, these special class loans being separate from the regular school deliveries. Miss Kelso gives an exhaustive summary of the "rules governing employment, rating and promotion of attendants," and includes a list of the members of the library force, giving details of work and salaries.

Maine State L., Augusta. (26th rpt.) Added 5479; total not given. Mr. Carver gives a review of the work of the library for the past two years, during which the growth of the library has been nearly double that of any like period of time in its history. Appended are a list of additions; a list of exchanges; a list of publications issued by the state, Dec., 1892-Dec., 1894; "laws concerning the State Library"; "laws relating to free public libraries," and tabulated lists of the libraries of the state, free and subscription.

Mass. Institute of Technology Ls., Bost. Added 5652; total 34,464; distributed among the 11 libraries of the institute. There are 515 periodicals, serials, etc., on the library's periodical list, the cost of which was \$1515.21 for 1894. The total amount, exclusive of salaries, spent on the libraries during the year was \$6423.40. "The growth of the libraries during the past year has been marked by a considerable decrease in the number and cost of books purchased, and by a much larger increase in the number and value of gifts."

During the year a shelf list of the chemical library has been completed, serving also as a partial substitute for a subject catalog. At the same time an account of the stock of the library was taken for the first time, resulting in the discovery that over 200 discrepancies existed between the cards and the shelves or pamphlet boxes, and that over 150 volumes and pamphlets were missing. "Many of these were simply out of place in the library; others were found by a careful search through the laboratories and offices of the department, having been taken out

without registration. There were left unaccounted for, finally, 20 v. and 11 pm. as the total loss in eight years from a library now amounting to nearly 6000 v. and 4000 pm. A similar examination of the physical library showed a loss of five volumes during the past year. From the engineering library only two volumes were lost, although many more had been taken out by instructors without registration. As these three libraries contain one-half of all the books in the institute, a total loss of about 20 v. a year is indicated."

Michigan State L., Lansing. (Biennial rpt.) The main statistical features of the report and the account of the development of the state library during the period covered (1892-94) have already been noted in these columns (L. J. 19: 391). It contains, however, several features that deserve individual mention, notably the lists of state and other publications included. The appendix includes a full list of the additions to the library during the biennial period, showing exchanges, gifts, purchases, etc.; a statement of the disposition of the Michigan Supreme Court reports from 1892-94, and of the Michigan pioneer collections; a supplement giving a list of the publications of Michigan from 1806-1891, including laws, codes, public documents, etc.; a catalog of the books and pamphlets belonging to the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society; list of educational books in the library, arranged by publishers; and a list of the Michigan educational exhibit at the Columbian Exposition.

Milwaukee (Wis.) P. L. In the serious fire of March 26 the library had a narrow escape from total destruction. The building in which it is quartered is in the business section of the city and contains several offices and stores; the library occupies the western half of the building. The structure caught fire at about 1 a.m., and was saved only after hard work by the firemen. The fourth and fifth floors, devoted to a business college and society rooms, were badly damaged; but the library section escaped.

New York, Astor L. (46th rpt.) Added 8294; total 260,611. Issued 218,051; no. readers 78,901.

Superintendent Little says: "Compared with the previous year, there was an increase of 10,110 ordinary readers, and 7675 books drawn. Large benefaction as the Astor Library is thus shown to be, it meets only the most serious requirements of the public. Daily experience of a great public reference library suggests the need also of a great public lending library in a central part of the city, with branches and evening opening, and maintained as generously as the common schools."

The library was closed for cleaning and repair from August 13 to September 15. The work of rearranging the books did not make as rapid progress as usual, owing to the large number of accessions; the chief work in this direction was in the difficult division of philology. A clear and systematic arrangement of the books is all-important to the speedy accommoda-

tion of the public. "It has been found convenient to divide the library into four departments, Art and Letters, History, Science, and Philosophy. Within these departments the old subdivisions are still used in our statistics, but will soon be replaced by others corresponding more nearly with the ultimate state of the collection."

New York State L., Albany. (76th rpt.) Added 10,045 (4369 purchased); total 172,154. Receipts \$37,900; expenses \$37,349.93.

The report covers the year 1893, and is, as usual, detailed and interesting. The development of the many departments of the library has been most gratifying, and its administrative machinery becomes yearly more effective. The condition of the law, education, and medical divisions are separately described. In the ms. room, shelving has been provided and the quarter million mss. of the library are there accessible for examination and research.

Besides the 1228 periodicals received, there is a total of 3438 "sequents," or publications appearing at intervals, such as reports, proceedings, etc.

The reference use of the library is estimated at 250,000 v. and is constantly increasing. The demand for reading and reference lists in special subjects has also grown continually among schools and special students. One of the features of the library is the weekly "book night," when the new books of the week, including important importations, are open for public inspection from 7-10 p. m. every Thursday evening. The loan of books from the library for special study purposes shows an increase of 18.71 per cent. during the five years to 1893, and the amount of "paid help," or information furnished to persons at a distance, for which a charge covering actual cost of time is made, has grown from \$8.40 in 1890, the first year of the plan, to \$431.77 in 1893—"a sum small in itself, but representing thousands of dollars of practical service to the public." The work of the library school for the year is summarized, and lists of the graduates and students attending the school and accepting library positions during the year, are given. There is also a comprehensive review of the work done in aiding library development throughout the state. Appended is a "summary of state library statistics, 1892-1893"; the "statistics of New York libraries," issued as State Library bulletin "Public libraries no. 2," and State Library bulletin "Legislation no. 3," giving the usual annual "summary and index of state legislation" during 1892.

New York, University Club L. (Rpt.) Added 948; total 11,892. Expenditures for books and bindings \$1806.82; total expenditures \$2808.78. The report is almost wholly given up to a review of the year's accessions.

New York, Y. M. C. A. L. The plans for the library department of the association, which will occupy the fifth and sixth floors of the building of the Y. M. C. A., which is to be erected in 56th and 57th streets, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, have been developed with much care, and will, it is thought, fully meet the present and

future needs of the library in its new quarters. As the association expects to commence the circulation of books among its members in the new building, the plans are drawn with a view of meeting the arrangement of the books in two departments, reference and circulating. The building will have a frontage of 75 feet and about the same depth. As the rear portion will have light-shafts on either side, the floor will not be as wide in the rear, and this rear section or L will be used for the storage of books on the stack system. The sixth or top floor will be used for the reference department, and will contain a reading-room for book readers only, one section being railed off for the use of artists and supplied with drawing tables. On this floor also will be the rooms of the librarian and catalogers, the latter containing stacks three tiers high. This floor will also communicate with the upper tier of the floor below by means of stairs, thus utilizing the upper tier of the fifth floor stack for the reference department, which will be much the largest, bringing a large part of the reference library within easy access of the attendants.

The fifth floor will have stacks two tiers high for the circulating department, also for bound newspapers, patent reports and public documents. There will be a periodical reading-room, part of which is to be railed off for those consulting bound newspapers, patents, and public documents. Here will be the delivery department, from which books will also be sent to the various branches of the association. The capacity of the two floors will be about 120,000 v., but as the fourth floor can be converted to the use of the library when required, the shelving area can be very largely increased. The new building will probably be ready for occupancy within two years after work is begun.

Philadelphia, Mercantile L. (72d rpt.) Added 3583; total 171,525. Issued, home use 86,621; attendance 301,558. Membership 2903, as against 3115 in the previous year. Receipts \$21,105.78; expenses \$20,867.05.

At the annual meeting, held Jan. 15, 1895, it was voted to reduce the membership fee to \$2.50 annually for subscribers, and \$2 for stockholders.

Philadelphia P. Ls. The committee on libraries of the board of education expects to open two new branch libraries within the next two months, viz., no. 5 in West Philadelphia in April, and no. 6 in Germantown in May.

Portland (Ore.) L. A. (31st rpt.) Added 1609; total 21,510. Issued 25,874 (fict. 71 %), an increase of 11 % over previous years; reading-room attendance 49,876. No record is kept of newsroom attendance.

The financial statistics show a deficit of \$3166.23 in the yearly account, and the estimated deficiency for 1895 is \$8173.40. The president of the association says: "It will not answer to allow so large a deficiency to confront us at the close of the year, or to trust to a speedy revival of former prices, to enable us to sell the property for sufficient to pay our present indebted-

edness. The interest and other deficiency will seriously embarrass us, and steps must be immediately taken to make up the deficit." He urges that generous contributions for library support be made by friends of the association.

Librarian Bursch says: "The great event of the year was the reduction in dues. This has resulted in a large increase in our membership. At the end of the year 1894 we had 193 more subscribing members than were enrolled at the end of 1893. Another innovation was the monthly publication of *Our Library*, a paper devoted to the interests of the Library Association, intended mainly to place before the members a list of the current accessions to the library. Incidentally it has been found convenient in a number of other ways. It serves as an excellent means of communication with the membership, and enables us to supply readers with lists of books on timely topics. It is also used as a medium of exchange with other libraries."

Two courses of university extension lectures were delivered during the year, but owing to the "flood of '94," then prevailing, they were poorly attended. Early in June the periodical-room was furnished, and attracted a large and increasing attendance. A catalog of the fiction department is in preparation, and will be issued during 1895. Mr. Bursch calls attention to the inadequacy of the book fund and the need of a special collection of Oregon historical literature.

Quincy (Ill.) P. L. It has been decided to issue a library bulletin of additions every two months. The estimated cost will be about \$90 a year for an edition of 3000 copies; it will be distributed free to library users. The statistics of circulation for February showed an increase of from 30 to 50% in books other than fiction. This is directly attributed to the system of issuing two books on a card.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. In a recent lecture before the Eliot Society of St. Louis on "What do the people of St. Louis read?" Mr. Crunden gave an interesting summary of the books most in demand by borrowers of the Public Library. He said that since last July 71 copies of "Trilby" had been purchased, and next to that comes "Monte Cristo," of which 13 copies were in the library, and 68 have been purchased. Continuing down the list is "Vanity Fair," "Les misérables," "Ben-Hur," "David Copperfield," "Ivanhoe," "Uncle Tom's cabin," "Henry Esmond," "Scarlet letter," "Three guardsmen," "Mrs. Holmes' "Darkness and daylight," "Moonstone," "Adam Bede," "Old curiosity shop," "Wandering Jew," "Barriers burned away," "Mill on the floss," "Pendennis," and "Saracinesca." Of these, the smallest number of copies found necessary is 28 for "Saracinesca." In juvenile literature Miss Alcott's four books, "Little women," "Jo's boys," "Little men," and "Under the lilacs" lead the list. There are 73 copies of "Little women" in the library, and 53 have been purchased since last July. Others popular among the children are "Tom Sawyer," "Jack and Jill," "Scudder's "Book of folk stories," Lamb's "Tales from Shakspeare," "Andersen's fairy tales," "Robinson Crusoe,"

and "Grimm's fairy tales." There is always great demand among the boys for biographies of heroes, as David Crockett, De Soto, Washington, Napoleon, and Lincoln. The girls are especially fond of Alcott, Finley, Coolidge and May, and fairy tales.

In the higher grades of literature it is interesting to note that nine complete sets of Shakespeare have been purchased since July, that Bulfinch's "Age of fable" has been issued 94 times in the same period, and Kant's "Critique of pure reason" 14 times. George's "Progress and poverty" is issued regularly three times a month, and the little "A B C of electricity," by Meadowcroft, is in constant demand, as are all the works on electricity. A comparison of the novels now read with those most popular in 1888, and also those of 1890, shows how evanescent was the popularity of quite a number, notably "Earth trembled," "Mr. Barnes of New York," "Anna Karenina," and "April hopes." On the other hand, "Vanity Fair," "Monte Cristo," "Les misérables," "Ben-Hur," "Uncle Tom's cabin," and "Scarlet letter" show no diminution in the public favor, and "the tendency," according to Mr. Crunden, "is always upward. Better novels supplant the poorer, and gradually a larger percentage of other classes of books is read."

San Francisco, Cal. THE BANCROFT LIBRARY: by J. J. Peatfield. (In *Overland Monthly*, Mar., 1895. p. 272-281.) il.

An interesting account of the development of the library of Hubert Howe Bancroft. The illustrations include views of the library, a portrait of Mr. Bancroft, and reproductions of some of the rare volumes and mss.

Seattle (Wash.) P. L. On March 2, at a meeting of the library commission, it was decided to close the circulating department of the library for lack of necessary funds. The February appropriation for the library was only \$200, while the expenses amounted to \$600. The matter was taken up by the city authorities, and on March 11 the council voted an immediate appropriation of \$250 to the library committee; it was also decided that a fee of 10 cents per month or 25 cents per quarter be charged to each borrower, and that the library be open only from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., thus saving the expense of lighting. A reduction in library salaries was proposed, but not finally adopted. These expedients will allow of the reopening of the circulating department, and it is hoped that the library may in time receive adequate financial support.

Stockton (Cal.) P. L. The new library building erected from the bequest of Dr. W. P. Hazelton was formally opened for inspection on March 14, and for the routine work of issuing and receiving books on March 16. The building was described in the March issue of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* (p. 101). The library has been in existence for 10 years or so, and it contains about 30,000 v.

University of California, Berkeley. Univ. L. (Rpt.) Added 3462; total 55,780.

The average all-day attendance of readers in

the library in March and April, 1894, was 102.9, an excess of 22.7 over the previous year. The percentage of students using books in the library has increased over 28 %, "though the student body itself increased only 25 %." In December, 1893, the deposit of \$5 charged for the issue of library cards was abolished, and the circulation of books promptly rose from 1221 v. in March, 1893, to 2005 v. in March, 1894, with constant growth since then.

"The reclassification of the library, begun in 1892, has been completed, and the scheme of classification published as Library Bulletin no. 12." The work of reclassification, together with the first complete inventory, taken in June, revealed a loss of 160 v., or about 23 v. per year for the past eight years. On appealing to the students on the subject, a resolution was promptly passed by the Associated Students' organization, condemning the abstraction of books, and pledging watchfulness to discover and report offenders.

In their annual report to the regents, the library committee of the university recommend various modifications of the library rules, and ask that they be authorized to negotiate with the trustees of the state library as to the adoption of a system of interchange between the books of the university library and the state library.

The interesting collection of the writings of California authors, prepared for the Columbian Exposition, has been presented to the university library, to be preserved, together with similar material already in the library, as a permanent exhibit of California literature.

University of Nebraska L., Lincoln. The bill appropriating \$80,000 for a new library building for the university was passed by the legislature on March 21 with a fine majority. The book-room of the building was erected some time since, and will form a main division of the structure to be built around it. The plans provide for the fireproof book-room in a wing 54 x 76 feet, joined by a connecting passage with the main building, 84 x 47. The ground floor of the main building will be devoted to the uses of the State Historical Library, containing its library and historical collection; the first floor will contain classrooms, offices of the university and historical society, and the unpacking room of the library; the second, recitation-rooms, reading-rooms, librarian's office, and catalogers' rooms; the third is wholly devoted to university purposes. The second floor of the wing is the book-room of the university library, the third floor being given up to classrooms until needed for library purposes. To make the wing as absolutely fireproof as possible, there are no openings between floors, the only method of entrance being by the main building and through the passage connecting the two buildings. Each floor of the wing can thus be reached only from the corresponding floors of the main building. The whole structure is to be heated by steam and lighted by electricity. The total cost is estimated at \$75,000, and it is hoped that the building will be completed by the fall.

Waltham (Mass.) P. L. The library issued in

January the first number of a monthly bulletin of accessions which is intended for free distribution among readers.

Washington, D. C. Smithsonian Institution L. (Rpt.) Added (incl. pms.) 37,952; of which 12,418 were retained in the National Museum. Total 292,425. The increase in accessions is 8464 over 1892-3.

"Three sectional libraries are now established in the Institution—the editor's, the astronomical, and one for works on aerodynamics. A room has also been set apart for the collections of prints belonging to the Institution. A few of these have been framed and hung upon the walls, the remainder being retained in bound volumes and portfolios. The card-catalog record of periodicals received has been transferred from the large cards formerly employed to the smaller card, known as the postal size; a new card catalog of periodicals in the Institution has also been prepared for the reading-room."

Watertown (Mass.) F. P. L. (27th rpt.) Added 237; total 22,431. Issued, home use 33,033; lib. use 9050. Receipts \$3502.05; expenses \$3502.05.

The circulation shows an increase of 20 % over the previous year, and the use of the library is constantly increasing. Librarian Whitney recommends the establishment of a children's room, and of an addition to the building. He suggests the publication of printed subject bulletins. An account of the routine work of the reception and preparation of books for circulation is included, to enlighten public ignorance as to "the amount of time and knowledge required to do the most important part of library work."

FOREIGN.

Clerkenwell (Eng.) P. L. (7th rpt.) Added 676; total 24,039. Issued, home use 72,549; ref. use 25,541; reading-room attendance 128,940; visitors to newsrooms 334,036. No. borrowers 3744, of whom 366 held "two-book" cards. Receipts £1818.6.1½; expenses £1584.9.7½.

In May, 1894, the system of "open access" was put into operation, the library being closed during April pending the necessary alterations. The new method has given most satisfactory results. Notwithstanding the closing, there was an increase of 2559 over the circulation of the previous year. The commissioners say: "Most of the increase is due to the new system of service, but nearly 2000 of the issues must be credited to the practice of allowing students and others extra tickets available only for non-fictional works. This privilege is mainly taken advantage of by the studious class, for whom it was intended, and has undoubtedly proved of great value. The percentage of fiction issued in 1894 has decreased as compared with 1893, and appears to be steadily declining. Practically the whole of this decrease is due to the opportunity which readers now have of examining books in the classes of history, travel, biography, art, and sciences. Owing to the manner in which the reading of fiction fluctuates, it is impossible to draw any definite con-

clusions from this fact till a longer trial has been made of the system."

The librarian attributes much of the increase in the more "solid" departments of reading to the circulation of music, from the fine arts section, and says: "It is my belief that a well-equipped music section will do much to reduce the demand for fiction in public lending libraries and add greatly to their practical value."

He comments also on the "open access" system: "It has been the means of placing in active circulation good books which formerly used never to quit the shelves. I have observed many cases of works in the classes of history, sciences, and arts which have been issued oftener from May to December, 1894, than during the five years from April, 1889, to April, 1894. Personally, I have derived immense advantage by being brought into direct contact with borrowers and their wants, and the staff has also profited greatly for the same reason. The system on which the library is classified and its contents arranged and distinguished, has overcome the dangers of wholesale misplacements, and no disposition to misuse or take away books has been manifested. The total loss for the eight months, including one doubtful case, consists of three small volumes, of the net value of 3s. 8d."

Sheffield (Eng.) F. Ls. On Feb. 13 the Sheffield city council gave formal sanction to a plan for establishing a delivery station of the library in the outlying district of Brightside. The system, proposed by Mr. Samuel Smith, librarian of the Sheffield Free Libraries, is substantially the same as that in use in the Jersey City and Chicago public libraries, of which Mr. Smith has made a careful study. The *Sheffield and Rotherham Independent* of Feb. 13 gives a detailed account of this attempt to "Americanize our institutions," and says, "we shall watch the working of this delivery station at Brightside village with no small interest, believing it may mark an epoch in the method of library work in Sheffield."

Librarians.

ANDERSON, Edwin Hatfield, librarian of the Carnegie Library of Braddock, Pa., was on March 15 elected librarian of the new Carnegie Library of Pittsburg, Pa. Mr. Anderson is 33 years old, and graduated from Wabash College, Indiana, in 1883. He studied law for a year in Chicago and for a time was engaged in newspaper work. Later he entered the New York State Library School (class of '92), and in May, 1891, became a cataloger at the Newberry Library, where he remained until 1892, when he was elected librarian of the Carnegie Free Library of Braddock. Mr. Anderson was not an applicant for the headship of the Pittsburg Library, but was the choice of the committee, after correspondence and consultation with leading librarians of the East. His salary is \$4000 a year. There were about 30 applicants for the position.

ANDREWS, Clement W., librarian of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was on March 23 unanimously appointed librarian of the John

Crerar Library, Chicago. The appointment was unsolicited by Mr. Andrews, and the fact that his name was being considered by the committee was not known to him until he was so informed by representatives of the board. Communications highly recommending him to the post were received by the committee from the foremost librarians of the country. Mr. Andrews was born in Salem in 1858. He graduated from Harvard in 1879 with the degree of M. A., and was for the next two years an assistant in organic chemistry in that university. For the two succeeding years he was engaged in laboratory work in a manufacturing establishment, which brought him into contact and sympathy with the working classes, whose interest in and use of scientific works he had an opportunity to observe. He came to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1883 as instructor. He was placed in charge of its chemical library in 1885, was appointed librarian of the Institute in 1889, and has from that time been at the head of its 13 department libraries. In 1891 and 1892 he had the full supervision of its laboratory work in organic chemistry, but since that time the demands of his library duties have so increased that his teaching has been confined to a short course as instructor in optical analysis of sugar. In that department he is considered a leading authority, as is evidenced by his appointment by the United States Treasury Department as adviser to the commission on the commercial valuation of sugar at a number of the principal ports in the country. He is the secretary of the Society of Arts of the Institute of Technology, and since 1892 has been the editor of the *Technology Quarterly and Proceedings of the Society of Arts*. He has also published various papers on scientific subjects. He is a member of the American Library Association, having attended its conferences since 1889, and is also a member of the Massachusetts Library Club.

CRANDALL, Francis A., has been appointed Superintendent of Public Documents, superseding Mr. J. G. Ames. The appointment is made under the provision of the new public documents bill, which transfers the bureau from the Department of the Interior to the control of the Government Printing Office, putting appointments in the hands of the Public Printer. Mr. Crandall is from Buffalo, and was at one time a candidate for the office of Public Printer. He has already taken the oath of office and entered upon his duties.

FOOTE, Miss Elizabeth M., of the New York State Library School (class of '92) began on March 6 the work of classifying and cataloging a Baptist historical collection which has been presented by Mr. Samuel Colgate to Colgate University.

PERKINS, Norman B., assistant librarian of the Detroit Public Library, died at Grace Hospital, Detroit, on March 20. Mr. Perkins was born in Vermont over 60 years ago and graduated at Yale College in the class of 1857, being a contemporary of Prof. Moses Coit Taylor, Chauncey Depew, and Justice H. B. Brown. He resided in Chicago for 20 years, where he gained and subsequently lost a considerable fortune. He

became connected with the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, but soon after removed to Detroit in 1879, and was a member of the *Post* and *Tribune* staffs for several years. In 1885 he was appointed assistant librarian, which position he held to the end of his life. His friendly and obliging disposition, painstaking labor, broad culture, knowledge of literature and books made him a very helpful and useful member of the staff. He was a lover and student of art, possessing both taste and knowledge, especially in bric-à-brac and china. His small but choice collection was sold a few days before his death. His wife died nearly ten years since. He leaves two children, residents of Detroit—a son and a daughter.

POOLE, Reuben Brooks, librarian of the Young Men's Christian Association of New York City, died suddenly at his home in that city on April 6, of heart disease, following an attack of the grip, by which he had been confined to his house only a few days. He was born in Rockport, Mass., in 1834, and was a son of Nathaniel Poole, a farmer. He was educated in Phillips Academy at Andover, and at Brown University, from which he was graduated in 1857. He afterwards taught for a year in Rockport, and during the Rebellion taught in the Philadelphia House of Refuge. In January, 1864, he became librarian of the New York Y. M. C. A., in which position he rendered over 30 years of continuous and efficient service. Mr. Poole was a life member of the A. L. A., having joined the association in 1876; he was an active worker in all library matters, and a familiar figure at library gatherings. He was twice president of the New York Library Club, and in September, 1894, was elected president of the New York (State) Library Association for 1894-95. He was of quiet tastes, unassuming manners, deeply interested in the development of the organization he had served so long, and his sudden death will come as a shock to his many friends and to the members of the A. L. A. and the various library associations with which he was so long identified. Mr. Poole had made a special study of old biblical manuscripts and was well-informed on library topics. He was a frequent contributor to the *JOURNAL*, and had also written for religious periodicals. He married nearly 25 years ago Miss Frances Emerson Haskins, daughter of William Haskins, of Providence, R. I., who died in December, 1894, after a prolonged illness. He is survived by an unmarried daughter.

SPERRY, Miss Helen, has been appointed librarian of the Carnegie Free Library, Braddock, Pa., succeeding Mr. E. H. Anderson. Miss Sperry is a graduate of the New York Library School (class of '94), and since August, 1894, has been first assistant in the Braddock library, of which she is now made librarian. From 1883 to 1892 she was assistant at the Bronson Library, Waterbury, Ct.

STEINER, Bernard C., librarian of the Enoch Pratt Free Library of Baltimore, has written a "History of education in Maryland," which is published by the U. S. Bureau of Education, in the series of "Contributions to American educational history," edited by Herbert B. Adams.

Cataloging and Classification.

ABERDEEN (*Scott.*) UNIVERSITY. Subject cataloging in the library. Aberdeen, University Press, 1895. 16 p. O.

A scheme of the subject classification proposed for the university library, prepared for the inspection of specialists and others interested, who are asked to give suggestions and advice as to the classification of books in their special fields. It is desired, in this way, "to carry the classification in the subject catalog to the degree of minuteness recognized by specialists in each department as most helpful in the study of that department." The decimal classification, with some modifications, is the one adopted.

CALIFORNIA STATE L. Catalogue of state publications, 1850 to July, 1894 (p. 32-72 rpt. of librarian, 44th and 45th fiscal years, 1892-1894).

This list is a useful addition to the scanty existing bibliography of state publications. It covers only the collection contained in the library, and comprises 728 separate issues. The catalog proper is arranged alphabetically, grouping publications under subject or author, "according to a purely arbitrary system adopted as a matter of convenience." Each entry has a consecutive marginal number. Following this is a careful index, referring to the marginal numbers of the main list, giving author, subject, and title entries, and facilitating the easy and ready consultation of the catalog.

CINCINNATI (*O.*) P. L. Bulletin of books added during the year 1894. Cincinnati, 1895. 110 p. F.

The four quarterly bulletins of the year bound in one volume, with index of authors appended.

DENVER (*Col.*) P. L. has issued a brief list (31 titles) relating to "Cliff dwellers: books and articles about them," compiled by Hyla Long.

FOSTER'S MONTHLY REFERENCE LISTS (Providence P. L. *Bulletin* v. 1, no. 3) for March cover "Wagner, chiefly since 1883," and "Du Maurier and Trilby." The first list is partly biographical, but chiefly devoted to Wagner's theory of composition and to critical and literary estimates of his operas; the second gives the best and most accessible periodical literature evoked by "Trilby." The value and usefulness of these lists are too widely known to need comment.

HELENA (*Mont.*) P. L. Bulletin no. 12, February, 1895: list of new books. 16 p. D.

NEWARK (*N. J.*) P. L. *Library News*: Magazine number, February, 1895.

Contains besides the usual list of additions a full list of the bound periodicals contained in the library (6 col.).

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. BULLETIN for March

devotes its usual special reading lists to "Ancient Rome" and "Ancient Greece." The former is classed under bibliography, history, biography, geography, religion, etc., with appropriate subdivisions; and the latter contains general works and poetry, fiction and drama relating to the subject.

SCRANTON (Pa.) P. L. Bulletin no. 1: additions from Sept., 1894, to Feb., 1895. 12 p. O. Printed by the linotype.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, Washington, D. C. List of publications of the Smithsonian Institution for sale and exchange. Washington, D. C., 1894.

A classed subject list of those issues in the *Contributions to Knowledge* and *Miscellaneous Collections* that are available for sale or exchange. Author entries are given, and in most cases the price of the publication is noted.

The SPRINGFIELD (Mass.) L. BULLETIN for February has a short biographical sketch of A. Conan Doyle, and a list of Dr. Doyle's books contained in the library.

WATERTOWN (Mass.) F. P. L. 13th supplement to catalogue of 1881. 1895. 26 p. O.

An author and title finding list of the additions made to the library during 1894.

FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library.

Barrett, Joseph Osgood (The forest tree planter's manual);

Fonda, Arthur I. (Honest money);
Jaynes, Mrs. H. Neil (Lessons on the life of Jesus; by Mrs. Julian Clifford Jaynes);

Loree, Leonor Fresnel (Track);
Owen, Orville Ward (Sir Francis Bacon's cipher story discovered and deciphered);

Purdy, Corydon Tyler (The steel construction of buildings);

Saffell, W. T: Roberts (Records of the revolutionary war);

Schroeder, Seaton, and } Azimuth tables.
Southerland, W: H: Hudson }

Bibliography.

BIBLIOGRAPHIE, Orientalische, begründet von Aug. Müller, bearbeitet von L. Scherman, herausgegeben von E. Kuhn. Jahrgang 8: 1894. 1. Halbjahrsheft. Berlin, Reuther & Reichard. 135 S. 8°. Subs., 10 m.

BIBLIOTHECA THEOLOGICA oder vierteljährliche systematische Bibliographie aller auf dem Gebiete der (wissenschaftlichen) evangelischen Theologie in Deutschland und dem Auslande neu erschienenen Schriften und wichtigeren Zeitschriften-Aufsätze. Herausgegeben von G. Ruprecht. Jahrgang 47 (Neue Folge Jahrg. 9), Heft 1: Januar-März 1894. Göt-

tingen, Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 1894. 1-50 p. 8°, 1.40 m.

BRADFORD, T: Lindsley. The life and letters of Dr. Samuel Hahnemann. Phila., Boericke & Tafel, 1895. c. '94. 7+513 p. por. O. cl., net. \$2.50; hf. mor., net, \$3.50.

Contains an 8-p. bibliography of Hahnemann's writings.

CALL, R: Ellsworth. The life and writings of Rafinesque. Louisville, J: P. Morton & Co., 1895. 228 p. F. (Filson Club publications, no. 10.) \$2.50.

A full chronological bibliography of Rafinesque's works covers p. 135-208; p. 209-214 contain "Bibliotheca Rafinesquiana," giving titles of books about Rafinesque.

COWAN, H: Landmarks of church history to the Reformation. N. Y., A. D. F. Randolph & Co., [1895.] 8+152 p. T. (Guild text-books.) pap., 30 c.

There is a 2-page bibliography.

DULLES, Jos. H., (comp.) McCosh bibliography: a list of the published writings of Rev. James McCosh, ex-president of Princeton College. Reprinted from the *Princeton College Bulletin*, v. 7, no. 1, March, 1895. 10 p. O.

The compiler is librarian of Princeton Theological Seminary. The list is arranged chronologically, including books, papers read before learned societies, articles contributed to periodicals, pamphlets, and the most important of Dr. McCosh's contributions to the religious press; titles of books are in small capitals and when possible full imprint data is given. About 170 titles are recorded.

FOSTER, L. S. A consideration of some ornithological literature, with extracts from current criticism. I., 1876 to 1883. (Extracted from Abstract of the proceedings of the Linnean Society of New York, no. 6. 1894, p. 47-99.) N. Y., 1894. 53 p. O.

A list of the principal books on birds published from 1876 to 1883, arranged under years alphabetically by authors, with notes condensed from reviews in the bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club and its successor, *The Auk*. The publication is a model bibliography of the subject, compiled upon the lines suggested by Mr. Iles. The initials of the authors of the reviews are appended to the notes. A second part covering the period 1884 to 1893 is promised. — G. M. J.

GRISWOLD, W: M. A descriptive list of novels and tales dealing with ancient history: pt. 1: Ancient life. Cambridge, Mass., W: M. Griswold, 1895. 51 p. O. pap., 50 c.

Comprises some 125 titles, accompanied by full descriptive notes, taken from leading critical journals.

GOULD, G. M. Illustrated dictionary of medicine, biology, and allied sciences, incl. pronunciation, accentuation, derivation, and definition of terms used in medicine, anatomy, surgery, obstetrics . . . psychology, climatology, etc., and the various sciences closely allied to medicine as bacteriology, parasitology . . . dentistry, pharmacy, chemistry, etc., based upon recent scientific literature. Phil., P. Blakiston, Son & Co., 1894. c. 16+1633 p. il. Q. shp. and hf. mor., \$10; hf. rus. with thumb index, \$12.

HARVARD UNIV. L. Bibliographical contributions, no. 48. Bibliography of the historical literature of North Carolina, by Stephen Weeks. Cambridge, 1895. 78 p. O.

Though Mr. Weeks modestly characterizes his work as "nothing more than a preliminary catalog," it is a comprehensive as well as an interesting bibliography. Almost every entry is annotated, imprint data is fully given, and the subject is broadly interpreted, so as to include books, pamphlets, and broadsides of even slight historical significance.

— — — Bibliographical contributions, no. 50.

An analysis of the early records of Harvard College, 1636-1750, by Andrew McFarland Davis. Cambridge, 1895. 22 p. O.

A summary of the various records contained in the old "college-books" of Harvard from its organization to 1750.

LANSDALL, H. Chinese Central Asia: a ride to little Tibet. N. Y., C. Scribner's Sons, 1894 [1895.] 2 v. 40+456 p.; 16+512 p. map, il. O. cl., \$5.

Appendix B contains a chronologically arranged bibliography of Chinese Central Asia (33 p.).

LEGRAND, E. Bibliographie hellénique, ou description raisonnée des ouvrages publiés par les Grecs au XVII^e siècle. v. 3. Paris, A. Picard & fils, 1894. 16+564 p. 8°; subs. for the 4 v., 75 fr.

OTTINO, G., and FUMAGALLI, G. Bibliotheca bibliographica Italica: catalogo degli scatti di bibliologia, bibliografia e biblioteconomia pubblicati in Italia e di quella riguardanti l'Italia pubblicati all'estero. V. 2 (supplement.) Turin, C. Clausen, 1895. 242 p. O. 15 lire.

The first volume was published in 1889; the present one continues the previous scheme of classification and arrangement, covering three divisions: 1, Bibliologia, publications relating to Italian printing and related arts; 2, Bibliografia, books by Italian writers and classed bibliographies of Italian books in the various branches of art, science, and literature; 3, Biblio-

teconomia, literature relating to Italian libraries, public and private. A full index is appended.

PAULSEN, F. The German universities: their character and historical development; authorized tr. by E. Delevan Perry; introd. by N. M. Butler. N. Y., Macmillan, 1895. c. '94. 31+254 p. D. cl., \$2.

There is a 6-p. bibliography of "works dealing with German universities."

REEVES, Jesse Siddall. The international beginnings of the Congo Free State. Balt., Johns Hopkins Press, [1895.] 3-106 p. O. (Johns Hopkins Univ. studies, nos. 11 and 12.) pap., 50 c.

There is a 5-p. bibliography of the subject.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

"Prairiedom rambles and scrambles in Texas, etc. By a Suthron." N. Y., 1845, was written by Frederic Benjamin Page, (b. 1798, d. 1857; A.B. Bowdoin 1818, M.D. Harvard 1821). — G. T. LITTLE.

Thymol Monk, said to be ps. of Miss Mary Belcher, in the novel, "An altar of earth," pub. in 1894. — *Pub. Weekly*, Feb. 9.

Veglie del prior LUCA, Firenze, 1860-68. This most remarkable series of political pamphlets of the century was written by Stanislao Bianciardi. I entered the series under the pseudonym in the Marsh Catalogue. — H. L. KOOPMAN.

Humors and Blunders.

SOME requests in a New York circulating library:

"Have you 20 legs under the sea?"

"Gimme the Picknic papers by Oliver Twixt."

"Gimme the Martins o' Cro' Martin be Dickens, or the Terra Cotta family."

"Have you Queen Hottentots, by Louisa Mühlburich?"

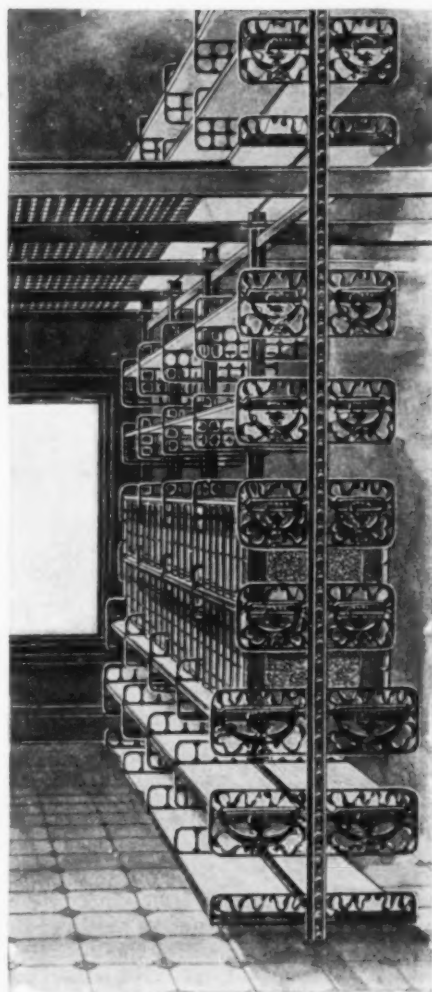
"I want 'By Mrs. Burnett,' I think it's by little Lord Faun."

"My mother said, 'would you please give me the secrets of the old maid, in German.'"

"Give me 'Lady with the carbuncle.'"

["Frau mit den Karfunkelsteinen."] "Anything of Stanman's, except, his Living Stone."

THE director of the Round Robin Reading Club, Miss Louise Stockton, asks us to state that a series of long-continued robberies of the mail recently discovered has very seriously affected her correspondence. Letters of inquiry, money orders, and replies to correspondents, and possibly letters of complaint, have been lost. Miss Stockton would be greatly obliged if any of our readers whose letters remain unanswered would write again, addressing her 4213 Chester avenue, Philadelphia.



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